

# BUILDING DESIGN

791

The weekly newspaper for the design team

FRIDAY JUNE 13 1986

## IKDC in £8m legal battle

TON Keynes Development Corporation has begun a campaign to recover more than £8 million awarded to it in a High Court action against building contractor Cruden's Ltd. The judgment came at the end of legal proceedings relating to allegations of water penetration, condensation, and bad workmanship in 182 houses on the Coffee Hall estate. It was designed by the corporation's architect.

Cruden's carries no liability insurance, has few assets, and has not traded for seven years since the reorganisation of the Cruden group of companies in 1979. It is thought that Milton Keynes will be trying to recover the award from Cruden's' parent company.

## Lambeth staff end up in magistrates court

# PUNCH-UP' 6/12/88 ARCHITECT 2/2/85 BOUND OVER

SENIOR trade union officers in Lambeth architects' department has been bound over to keep the peace and to pay costs of £500 in a court case this week.

Camberwell magistrates heard that Naigo convenor Hall went to senior architect Mark Drummond's house looking for his court verdict was "game set and match to my cause".

No court heard that when he

assaulted Drummond, Hall

assaulted him.

Hall is considering an appeal.

Drummond himself has been suspended from the council on

disciplinary hearing.

Drummond, who spoke to national newspapers about the case and openly criticised the council, claims he and Meyer are the victims of a personal campaign of vilification based on political grounds.

Drummond was going to ask for a hearing immediately after the court case was over, but now claims to have discovered procedural irregularities in the council's disciplinary rules.

Under 1978 employment legislation, employers are bound to give written details of disciplinary rules when they initiate proceedings and give details of grievance procedure.

Lambeth has not issued Drummond with these details, he says. "Until they tell me what the charges are, I can't arrange my defence," he told *BD*.

Lambeth is hoping for an early conclusion to the Drummond/Meyer saga and had planned a hearing for Drummond at the end of this month, and for Meyer in July.

Charges against Drummond relate to his support for print

star names oppose policy on drawings

NEW high-powered lobby is using the proposal to move the BA Drawings Collection back to Portland Place.

A letter to *The Times* criticising the plan has been signed by Mark Grouard, James Stirling, Mark Newby, Dennis Lennon, Ian Henderson and Hugh Casson.

They say the plan to turn No 68 Portland Place into a home for the collection, moving it from its present home in nearby Portman Square when it becomes available.

Sir Hugh Casson has also written to Institute president Larry Rolland, saying that he feels "uneasy" about the decision so far taken by council on this matter, and that other members feel the same way.

Instead, the signatories ask for a collection to be set up, with a view to expanding into additional space in Portman

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# New light on a master

Dennis Sharp heard Prof Franz Schulze give the Mies van der Rohe centennial lecture at the RIBA.

THE author of a major new biographical study, Prof Franz Schulze of Chicago has some new and valuable information on Mies van der Rohe, the master architect who was born in the German-Dutch border town of Aachen in 1886 and who altered the appearance of major American cities in the immediate post-war period.

In his centennial lecture, entitled "Mies van der Rohe and the *Zeigelt* question", Schulze demonstrated how little we really know about Mies' background and contemporary connections. Thus an in-depth unillustrated paper seemed entirely in order, although perhaps somewhat exasperating for those who had attended to view yet another slide show on the architect's work.

Indeed, the carefully prepared talk may well have proved difficult for those unfamiliar with the subtleties of German philosophical thought of the first quarter of this century.

But Adrian Gale, who acted as chairman for the evening — and who had returned only that morning from hosting the SAG at the Farnsworth House — recommended the speaker's original scholarship and empirical paper.

Mies' reputation lies artificially low in Britain. In such circumstances eulogies would have been out of order. Thankfully Schulze sensed this and gave instead a thoughtful and analytical paper.

The *Zeigelt* of his title, he said, referred specifically to the Hegelian basis of Mies' ideas and to his self-appointed Olympian mission, which he took so seriously throughout his life. Mies possessed an acute consciousness of his age. As a young man he became under the influence of the important aesthetician and philosopher Alois Rieg (who drew a distinction between geometrical and naturalistic types of art) and he served a

period (from 1908-12) under the tutelage of the significant German pioneer Modernist Peter Behrens.

In Behrens' office the young architect saw the importance of both the *Jugendstil* and the geometrical basis of Classical Modernism and its connections to Schinkel. Mies learned much from his employer, whose AEG Turbine Hall in Berlin indicated the power of his architectural theory through its symbolism of what Schulze summarised as "art, geometry, technology and the state".

Soon, however, a quarrel developed while Mies was working on the Kröller House project for The Hague and he left Behrens' employ. Mies, it appears, had expressed his admiration for the Dutch architect H P Berlage, with whom he was to share beliefs in agnostic-

ism, collectivism, rational architecture, Frank Lloyd Wright and natural laws.

Mies had also independently seen an exhibition of Wright's work in Berlin around 1910, claiming it had "unexpected force". Its message, particularly in relation to the use of free-flowing spaces on plan, became an energetic component of his own free domestic space designs of the post-World War I period.

By 1927 he was put in charge of the Stuttgart *Weissenhof* *siedlung* where he erected his only essay into German social housing. His reputation was enhanced by the Barcelona Pavilion, the Tugendhat House at Brno and the eventual headship of Gropius' fateful Bauhaus. In 1938 he moved to the United States.

From that date the story appears more familiar and Schulze chose questions rather than repetition. Inevitably he was asked how he viewed the *Mansion House* decision. His categoric denial reassured his audience and left few in doubt that Mies' work has lasting value.

His disciples, followers and admirers, many of whom were at the RIBA last week, will no doubt work hard during this centenary year to remedy public opinion about a truly great world architect.

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From



Franz Schulze... filling in the background. (Photo: Geoff Beeckman)

## Timber Repair



## Opinion

### Questions of history

Richard Griffith of the Historic Buildings & Monuments Commission sets some questions for the DoE on listed building control.

THE Select Committee on the Environment is inquiring into historic buildings and ancient monuments. What questions should it be asking?

Hopefully it will take a look at the administration of statutory listed buildings. There is an absence of information about the best of our architectural heritage. Nobody even knows how many buildings are protected, let alone how well they are protected.

As long ago as 1966, Lord Kennet was able to write of listed building control: "I marvelled at the willingness of Parliament to set up, and the Civil Service to operate, a system designed to have a certain effect without ever checking whether it was having that effect, or another, or none."

Baroness Birk, speaking in the House of Lords in 1985, said:

"It is rather surprising that while extensive powers can be exercised over listed buildings, there is no machinery for collecting and analysing information on how these powers have been used, and how effectively they are dealing with identifiable pressure in particular areas."

Therefore I would like to propose three questions for the select committee to ask the Secretary of State for the Environment:

1. How many buildings are listed?

No one knows how many buildings are subject to listed building control. The DoE, which compiles the lists, says the current number is 385,000 and that when the survey of buildings in England and Wales is completed by the end of 1987 this will have increased to about 500,000.

These figures are wrong. They represent a count of list entries. Since one entry can relate either to something as small as a single bollard or to something as large as a complete square of houses, the count is almost meaningless.

Shortly before its dissolution, the Greater London Council carried out a survey of the proposed revised list for the City of Westminster. It contained 3,418 entries, but these identified 10,524 individual buildings. If this ratio is extended across the country, the total number of buildings subject to listed building control would not be 500,000 but closer to 1,500,000. In reality the total will probably be somewhat less

## Points to note

Central government has offered two reasons for resisting the introduction of a monitor in recent months:

Dificulty and expense:

"... (a monitor) would be costly to operate, requiring extra staff both here in my department and in the local authorities, thus it would run counter to our determined efforts to reduce the administrative cost of both central and local government."

Moreover, I am not convinced that the resulting statistics would actually prove useful in practice." (Letter from Neil MacFarlane MP, August 31, 1983.)

"...the sort of register you envisage would be neither simple nor inexpensive." (Letter from chief executive, HBMC, August 6, 1984.)

Comment: The average running cost of the GLC's system for monitoring alterations to listed buildings (including professional staff time, administration and information processing) is less than 20 pence per building per annum. The total running costs of extending such a system across the country would amount to no more than the cost of four full-time professional staff.

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Comment: Monitoring listed building control does not imply either an infringement of local discretion or "nationwide consistency", but it would make it easier for each local authority to review how it is using the control, and to compare how other local authorities are using the control, and to explore "unintentional variations". Similarly, the secretary of state and the HBMC would be in a position to review the general effectiveness of the control.

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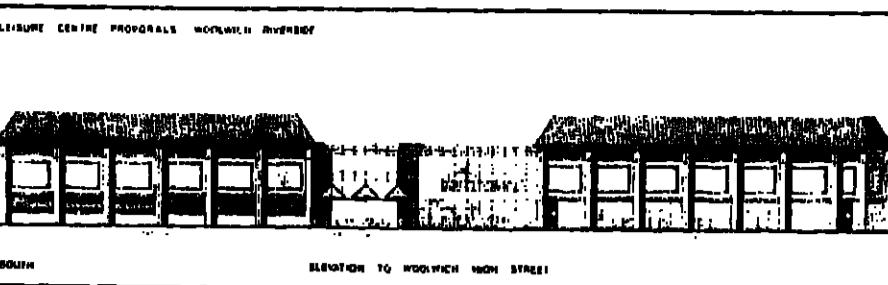
## Merger's timing 'a fluke'

THE recently agreed merger of Nottingham University's school of architecture and Institute of Planning should strengthen both — but its coinciding with the UGC review was unintentional, according to head of architecture Christopher Riley.

He said informal talks first took place more than two years ago, and were given added impetus by a joint initiative by the RIBA and Royal Town Planning Institute.

The UGC review of research performance at Nottingham (News last week) gave it the lower marks among architecture schools, along with Manchester.

The department of architecture and planning will formally come into existence in September and have 22 staff and at least 220 students, with another 60 students on years out.



## Sheltered housing experts call for design guidelines

A CALL for comprehensive design guidelines for private sheltered housing comes in a report just published by the National House Building Council.

This is the third major study of the retirement house market prepared for the NHBC's Housing Research Foundation by Dr Stephen Baker and Dr

Malcolm Parry of Surrey University. It indicates a rapid growth in the development of

By BD Reporter

this market, from 2,000 planning approvals in 1981 to more than 12,000 last year, and they predict an annual building rate of 20-24,000 by 1988.

Baker and Parry are acknowledged experts on retirement homes, not only in this country but also in Spain where they act as consultants to a large sheltered housing company. In the report they point to several design features in UK schemes that residents have complained about, including poor noise insulation, inadequate storage space, unsuitable heating

systems, bad positioning of windows and doors which are difficult to open.

Dr Baker said: "Design becomes increasingly important as residents become older and more frail, but small units are often designed like starter homes. The Americans go to great lengths to get every aspect of design right, but here there is a tendency to simply copy existing schemes. Many flats, for example, have kitchens without windows, which really doesn't suit the elderly."

The report concludes that existing sheltered housing is primarily only suitable for the active elderly. The authors believe greater attention to design details could help to overcome this by making properties more appropriate even when people lose some of their independence.

Housing for sale to the elderly (third report) is available from the Housing Research Foundation, 58 Portland Place, London, WIN 4BU. Price £15 plus £1 p&p.

## Oxford's plan for promotion

PLANS for a new studio leisure and retail facilities: green belt land in north Oxford have been unveiled by the c football club.

A 40-acre site for the scheme has been selected, but Cheshire District Council has yet to receive a planning application.

In-house architects: Oxford United's chair Robert Maxwell have won on plans, but a spokesman says they had only sketched out a concept so far.

It would be quite some time before a planning application would be made or architect appointed, he added.

## Overseas practices

DETAILS of how architects practice overseas are available in a new publication from the Commonwealth Association of Architects.

Around 20 key areas of professional practice have been surveyed among the CAA's membership and in other countries, to compare the different codes.

Contributing institutes were asked to submit problems or matters of concern. These include political interference (Guyana), too many architects (West Germany, Sweden and others), lack of public appreciation (Denmark), and "unhealthy practices" (India).

The RIBA submitted professional liability as the UK's greatest problem — common difficulty.

The report is available from the CAA at the Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London WC1.

## Blissful ignorance at the Commons

MOST people do not notice what buildings are made of or remember much more than their outlines, according to a report by Scott Brownrigg & Turner.

The architects commissioned a survey of 20 MPs and 200 members of the public to find out how much they remembered about Britain's most famous landmarks.

It revealed that less than half knew what Big Ben was made of or the colour of its roof tiles.

"Most people would recognise the silhouettes of buildings like St Paul's, Westminster Abbey, the Post Office Tower and the Houses of Parliament, but very few could talk about

colours and details like windows, doors, domes and spires," said Ken Gilham, chairman of Scott Brownrigg & Turner.

The survey also found that people's answers were often expectations rather than observations.

Most assumed that the tower was red, black or even grey rather than blue-grey and several, including one MP, thought the numerals on its clock were Arabic instead of Roman.

Two MPs with top marks were Lynda Chalker and Nicholas Fairbairn. "We do propose to identify the MPs who got some of the answers wrong," said Gilham.

During construction between

1971 and 1976, the system was designed to be the wet cooling tower system should not in future be included in the design of hospitals and that the use of air-conditioning in hospitals should be scrutinised.

These recommendations came out of problems the inquiry revealed in the design, installation and management of the system at Stafford District General Hospital.

BDP were architects and engineers for the hospital, which

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## Marina design poser

ARCHITECTS and planners Module 2 could be frozen out of plans to complete Brighton Marina (above) after designing the master plan for the £200 million scheme.

Developer Brent Walker revealed this after announcing that it had teamed up with Barratt to build more than 700 houses on the site. A spokeswoman for Brent Walker told BD that no decision had yet been made on who should get the design contracts for the leisure centre, hotel and supermarket complex. But it would not automatically be Module 2, she said.

Brent Walker chairman George Walker revealed that more joint projects with Barratt are to come. The volume housebuilder is due to get the contract to build 2,500 houses on a

projected 300ha Island marina site at Southend.

The scheme already has outline planning permission from the local authority but the proposal, which involves creating a massive offshore land mass, has to get government permission before it goes ahead.

Brent Walker is confident of starting on site by the end of 1987.

Barratt's share of the Brighton Marina project will be worth £100 million, bringing the total cost of the complex up to £200 million. The Brighton Marina project was first launched in 1983, and was then estimated to cost £9 million.

Consultant architects for the 100 houses and 550 flats, to be built using existing planning permission, are Mason Richards Partnership.

It said only Waterloo could house the 400m-long platforms, and had the sufficient capacity on the approach lines for the proposed services.

By Amanda Ballieu

BR's scheme includes four extra platforms, an international parcels office, customs control and extra shops. Because it would be contained within the confines of the present station, BR would not need to seek planning permission from Lambeth council.

But Lambeth claims the proposals are a "deliberate attempt

to sidestep local planning procedures" and has called a special council meeting this week to organise a petition to Parliament recommending that Waterloo be dropped.

Planning chair Bob Colenutt said such a major development — which would bring an estimated 10 million extra passengers a year through Waterloo — would have a disastrous effect on local land values, on traffic congestion, and on the character of the area.

The Association of Waterloo Groups says BR has not carried out adequate research into the effects of the terminal, and is calling for a full public inquiry.

"There has been no consultation by BR, so it is rather a joke they are now holding public meetings to tell us what they intend to do," said a spokesman for the group.

British Rail will also be building an international passenger station at Ashford in Kent, 15 miles from Folkestone — the chosen port for the tunnel. And Eurotunnel, the partnership of the Channel Tunnel Group, will build an inland clearance depot for freight lorries.

After approaches from Ashford council, Consortium Developments — the housebuilder behind Tillington Hall — has been drawing up plans for a new town south of Ashford.

Council planners say that since the tunnel plans were announced there has been a sharp increase in land and property values, and a marked increase in planning applications from would-be developers.

A new business park being built by the council — near the proposed inland clearance depot — could end up at triple the size because of the enormous interest in the area, a council spokesman said.

The concerts take place on June 17, June 24 and July 1, and feature students from Royal College of Music, Royal Academy of Music, Trinity College of Music. Performances last just under an hour and tickets cost £1.

## News

### Building 'introvert overspill attacked in prospect

CAMBRIDGESHIRE County Council is considering a new town for 15,000 and a new village for 7,500 as a way of fending off the overdevelopment of Cambridge itself.

The settlements, which are likely to be included in the forthcoming revision of the county structure plan, could be built on the A10 north of Cambridge or on the A604 in the direction of Huntingdon.

They would include employment and shopping as well as homes. They would not necessarily be fully developed before 2001, the end of the structure plan period.

The conference on architectural skills in planning and management heard Banham to call for more authorities to co-ordinate their professional input into single estates departments.

From this, councils could set up local or special project teams to ensure the effects of the terminal, and is calling for a full public inquiry.

Banham stressed the need for energy-efficient and fuel design, along with ease of maintenance, as buildings in public estates could find social changes led relatively quickly to changes of use.

Organised by the Concrete Society, the races will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 21 and 22, and will include 150 competitors in 48 canoes.

Competitors must build a lightweight two-man canoe which will stay afloat long enough to win a race. They include students and teams from companies.

Thorpe Park is off the A320 between Staines and Chertsey.

DEMANDS that an extension to Milton Keynes' system-built hospital be clad in traditional materials have provoked controversy.

Oxfordshire Regional Health Authority intends to build a £10.6 million extension to the hospital, continuing the existing grey profile-sheet exterior which is part of the county's widely-used hospital building system.

As a public authority, the RHA does not have to submit

"If the money had been available then we would have built the whole of the first phase then. It's a direct extension, some of the wards link through. We cannot see any justification in aesthetic or planning considerations for changing it."

The scheme will now go ahead, although local newspapers report the beginning of a campaign against it.

Architect Vic Berry of the RHA said: "These kind of issues are very subjective to lay people. We built the first phase and phase two is a continuous development of that."

Oxfordshire Regional Health Authority intends to build a £10.6 million extension to the hospital, continuing the existing grey profile-sheet exterior which is part of the county's widely-used hospital building system.

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By John Morris

the design to the normal planning process. It told a meeting of the district council's planning committee, called to make observations on the scheme, that the brick cladding plan would cost around £500,000.

It told the council that the extra money could only be found by reducing facilities in the hospital.

The planners decided not to object to the development, but informed the RHA that it was disappointed that it had decided to stick with the metal cladding system and asked for a change in any future developments.

Fiver a week bargain in Welsh 'save it' homes

A PAIR of "low-energy" four-bedroomed houses built for the South Wales Electricity Board in Caerphilly is designed to reduce heating and hot water bills to about £5 in an average week.

The houses, built by architect Kenneth Lloyd and local builder Baralight, incorporate technical developments pioneered at the Electricity Council's research centre in Chester.

One of them will include extensive metering equipment to monitor the performance of the system.

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Martian venue stays human . . .

Leaking roof shuts museum

EDINBURGH'S Royal Scottish Museum will be forced to shut for three months during the summer because of major roof repairs.

The museum, which would have expected around 150,000 visitors during this period, was to have remained open while re-glazing, costing around £500,000, was carried out on the roof of the main hall.

A spokesman from the museum said that scaffolding in the main hall would severely restrict access and the museum would close from July 7 to early October.

The inspector's report concluded that the development should be rejected because of its "significant adverse effect" on the neighbourhood.

This view has been upheld by the environment secretary.

UNTIL today, tosh nailing has been the only way to make butt joints. But it's crude, splits out the lumber and noggins get bashed out of position.

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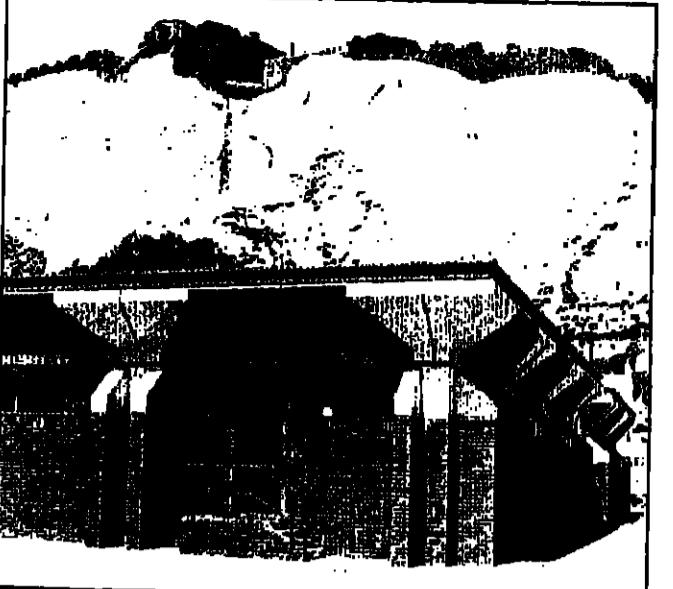
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## News in pictures

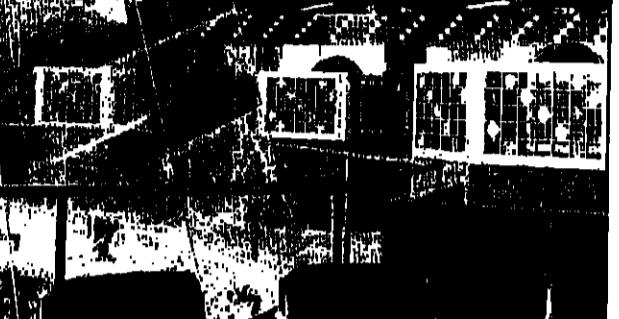
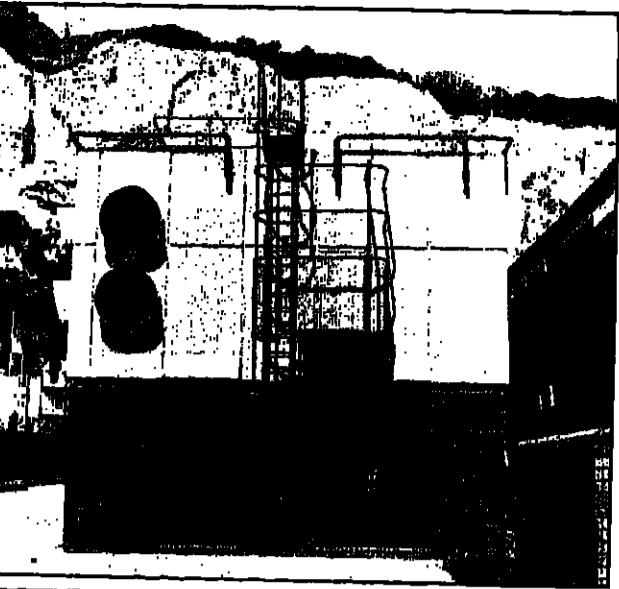


## Star treatment

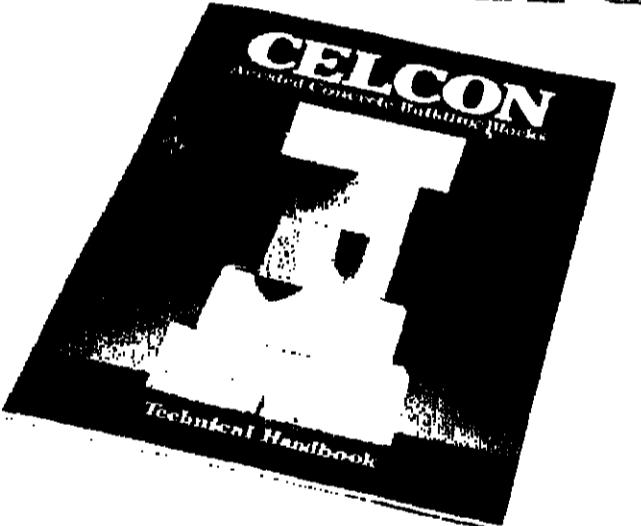
Above, above right and right: Hungry truckers can now tuck into a wide range of meals at this new 24-hour restaurant at Dover's Eastern Docks. The port's £75 million redevelopment plans include this £1.3 million Wheellhouse complex — waitress service restaurant, lounge, toilets and showers and shopping facilities — within the import freight area.

Architects Dudley Marsh, Son & Partner of Dover designed the club, which is open seven days a week. Computerised tv monitors tell drivers when their vehicles have been given customs clearance.

Other projects underway at the docks include a new sophisticated computerised clearance system, a £4.7 million outward deck and the enlargement of Number 3 berth to accommodate jumbo ferries.



## BUILD BY THE BOOK WITH CELCON



openings can nearly be built with clean-cut Celcon fractions. Light though it is, Celcon Solar has a strength of 2.8 Newtons per square millimetre. Celcon Standard exceeds 4 Newtons per square millimetre and Celcon High Strength, 7 Newtons per square millimetre. In practice this means you can build a block of three-storey flats entirely from Celcon, including the walls below dpc.

Celcon blocks are made in big batches. They are loaded and unloaded mechanically in 1/2 cubic metre units. This makes for very fast, safe handling.

For the stockist and his small job customers, Celcon is shrink wrapped into small easily fork-lifted HandiPaks.

The blocks are selected for these packs and totally enclosed in the factory so they come out dry and undamaged when the bricklayer unwraps them.

These are just a few of the useful bits of information you'll find in the Celcon brochure. A copy of the book is yours for the asking. Even when you've got it, don't forget the Celcon representative is always nearby ready with his fund of knowledge and practical experience or to take your problem to the Celcon technical service.

Clip the coupon, then you will have your own book of knowledge on Celcon.

### Horse hospital

Devereux & Partners' new equine surgical wing at the Royal Veterinary College, Hatfield, has been officially opened by Princess Anne. The wing is to be named after Sifton, the horse injured in the 1982 Hyde Park bombing, who was present at the opening.

The design marks the latest stage in a 30-year association between practice and the college. A steel-frame roof links on to the existing buildings. Finishes have been kept simple throughout. The surgical unit includes railed-walled and floored recovery rooms where the horses come round for anaesthesia.

The hospital caters for horses referred by veterinary surgeons without facilities to operate.

The hospital caters for horses referred by veterinary surgeons without facilities to operate.

Erno Goldfinger and Richard Seifert are among the architects featured.

The institute's failure to



### Cantab complex

Work recently started on this £1.2 million hi-tech estate in King's Hedges, Cambridge.

Designed by Barber, Casanova, Ruffles the 2,500sq m complex will prove up to six units in three two-storey buildings.

Building contractors are Johnson & Bailey and structural engineers are Arup & Partners. The building is scheduled for completion by the end of 1988.

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## CELCON BUILD A REPUTATION

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The answer is the consistent bubbly structure. There are no hard lumps in Celcon. The bubbles are so small that they never become full of water. This gives rise to another boring fact: the blocks are almost waterproof.

Waterproof doesn't mean vapour-proof. This means that provided it's warmer on the inside of your Celcon built house than on the outside, moisture laden air will constantly travel outward. The block and the wall can breathe.

Breathing is an important thing to be able to do when a fire breaks out. With 100 mm of Celcon between you and a conflagration, four hours could elapse before the air got too hot for your lungs to handle.

There is no magic in this; it's the simple thing that happens when you combine good thermal insulation with non-combustible ingredients.

Good thermal insulation is something the Building Regulations demand. The 0.6 standard can still be met by a real cavity brick wall provided the inner leaf is of 125 mm Celcon Solar.

The fact that Celcon can be cut with a saw means that messy bodge which usually passes for a reveal at window

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## News

## School plans breakaway from visiting board system

SPEAKERS from more than 20 countries, including Britain, will be taking part in the World Congress on Land Policy to be held in London in July.

Emphasis will be placed on specific case histories and land policy solutions.

Subjects under discussion include historic conservation with speakers from the chief architects department, Prague, and the Institut de Architecture de Venezia, Venice; recent innovation in port development including work in London's Docklands; and urban revitalisation projects with a talk by architect Edward Rossell from Barcelona's local authority.

The congress has been sponsored by the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, the International Centre for Land Policy Studies and the Urban Land Institute — all from the United States.

A promised highlight of the congress will be a 30-minute presentation of Walt Disney's new Florida theme park, for which an entire stage has had to be constructed to accommodate 18 slide projectors.

It is possible to register for individual days as well as the whole congress.

The congress will be held at the London Hilton from July 6 to 11. For further details contact Sue Nickson, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, 01-222 7000.

The school comes up for another RIBA board visit in two years, but Silver said by that time the plan would be to find an alternative source of accreditation.

The RIBA board carries out the inspections on behalf of Arcu. Silver said it might mean asking for Arcu's direct approval of the school, or alternatively looking for recognition from the Council for National Academic Awards, or even the new Standing Committee of Heads of Schools of Architecture.

He stressed the plan, which is still in its early stages and would require the polytechnic's approval, was "not inspired by malice, but the only course we can now take as the RIBA failed to support us".

The institute's failure to

### Planners hit back in education battle

PLANNERS have fired a broadside at Government plans to cut planning education.

In sharp contrast to the RIBA's approach during the cuts crisis, the Royal Town Planning Institute appears to have gone on the offensive in a special supplement in its journal, *The Planner*.

The planning schools claim to show that they have "won the numbers argument over supply and demand for trained planners".

Projections of these figures "give no support to the cost-cutting rationalisation of courses which seem to be the outcome favoured by the responsible bodies".

RTPI education board chairman Mike Gibson points out that closures already implemented will suppress the output of new planners to under 400 a year by 1988, which will mean demand outstripping supply.

"There is clearly no case for further course closures on manpower planning grounds, as the claims of an overproduction of planners simply do not stand up to critical analysis," says Gibson, head of town planning at South

Bunck Polytechnic.

He also rejects suggestions by the National Advisory Body that the length of courses could be cut.

This is impossible considering the increased pressure of learning, and would not make sense on value-for-money grounds either.

John Forsyth, secretary of the Education for Planning Association, says that these proposals "challenge the basis of planning as a legitimate professional activity," by questioning what skills the planner offers RTPI's right in determining the appropriate education.

The transitory report on planning is an attempt to reduce the abilities of the profession, argues Forsyth.

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### Key to a loch design

The glazing panels on John Payne's water sports tower (right) cover almost two-thirds of the building's structure.

Payne, a member of Strathclyde Region architects department, designed the tower to stand alongside an artificial loch at Strathclyde Park, near Motherwell, which will host the rowing events in the 1986 Commonwealth Games.

The tower houses all the personnel and equipment needed to provide judging, timekeeping and commentary facilities for the events. It allows unimpeded vision of the crossing line for four judges and nine timekeepers.

Fitting the glass proved tricky because mechanical means were ruled out. The entire 150 sq m of glazing had to be manoeuvred by block and tackle. It is two separate Pilkington Glass suspended assemblies in 12mm Armourplate Antisun Bronze.

### Barber back

SIR Derek Barber has been reappointed as chairman of the Countryside Commission for another three years, the DoE said this week. He has held the post since 1981.



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## Letters

# Straightforward housing issue

From David Hall, director, Town & Country Planning Association AUBREY Calderwood's letter about the Divis Flats complex (May 30) in concentrating on the political aspects of the controversy, ignores the real issue so far as the Town & Country Planning Association is concerned.

Simply, this is that no one should be obliged to live in the deplorable conditions that exist in the Divis complex. Calderwood refers to the residents' "perhaps legitimate case for better housing", but in the TCPA's view there is no "perhaps" about it. It is a straightforward issue of housing that was so badly designed in the first place and has been so gravely neglected and badly maintained by the public authorities ever since, that the people should be rehoused in accordance with their wishes. The issue is therefore one of housing policy and neighbourhood planning and design.

We are frankly dismayed at the attitude of the DoE Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive in their continuing reluctance either to produce a detailed refutation of the criticisms of the Divis estate, which were contained in our policy statement last November, or to meet us and the residents to discuss the improvements that could be made.

It is beside the point for Calderwood to say that the Divis problems are shared by "numerous other system-built estates in the rest of the UK". In fact we doubt if any are as bad, but if they are then the relevant authorities are equally culpable.

In spite of the intransigence of

## Architect's eye view

From Brian Anson

WITH regard to Aubrey Calderwood's letter, I leave it to the discerning readers to judge just who is bringing "politics" into the Divis debate — I, through my article, or the critical respondents to date.

Like Alex McGregor before him, Calderwood makes no real comment on the actual social and physical environment of the complex. This is what concerns me as an architect and planner and whether some people like it or not, the conflict in Belfast is an integral part of that environment.

Divis is as I described it in my article; those who want to check the veracity of my account should simply go and see it. I certainly have no intention of being drawn into an argument with those who seem only to want to compete for the record of how many times "the IRA" can be mentioned in a single letter.

In view of the RIBA's relative impotence about the most useful thing it could do is engage Bob Geldof to deliver a singing telegram to the private residences of Sir Peter Swinnerton Dyer and the chairman of the CNAAs Committee on the Built Environment (a spec builder!) with the message — off!

From Mike Beazley

ALEX McGregor's letter of May 16 is typical of the misunderstanding and prejudice that has beset the Divis people. I was a member of the TCPA's Planning Aid Unit that visited Divis in the summer of 1985. I was appalled at the living conditions that fellow human beings are having to endure. It is an act of gross irresponsibility to deflect attention away from the main object of the campaign — the demolition of the Divis complex and its replacement with decent housing.

The letter is clearly a personal attack against Brian Anson; something I know he has endured for many years in certain circles but something that is so wrong and unjust. He shows tremendous courage and determination in standing up for what he believes in — human, social and environmental justice.

Finally, I was "much struck" by McGregor's references to Gerry Adams, Arthur Scargill and the Payment of Debt Act. There is no disguising his politics.

Having said all that, does it matter? Not a lot. It is perfectly clear from your front page story (June 6) that more cuts are on

the way and this ritual dance will be repeated up to 1990. What we are observing is the Robbins expansion of the DoE being put into reverse as the client is contracted to meet the shortfall in student numbers at the end of the century. The present round of cuts is just the opening shots, and reports such as the CNAAs just released are just one element in harassing staffs in schools until they don't know whether they are coming or going.

The example of the artschools is there to see: cuts, closures, cancellation of closures, mergers, threatened redundancies, reduced student quotas, reduced funding, adverse reports on curriculum/student performance, and so on. At the end of the day the staff are so shell-shocked that they agree to anything simply to end the agony of suspense.

Since the RIBA does not put any into the funding of the schools, it follows that its influence is peripheral. Those who pay the piper will call the tune; the RIBA may propose, the paymasters will dispose.

From Philip Powell

SCORPIO'S semi-cheerful piece (May 23) on The Queen Elizabeth II Conference Centre is a little sour when it fears that "the dread hand of PSA is apparently in some of the interiors, and indeed such basic elements as catering."

On catering, the choice of Prue Leith as the centre's concessionnaire is scarcely the work of a dread hand and, if Scorpio believes that such a hand is on some of the interiors, it is that of Powell Moye & Partners, Crown Supplies and our client, the PSA, working together in close and amiable partnership.

Will the building industry never learn that the rays of the sun are the chief enemies of roofing felt and asphalt?

From Peter Falconer

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Philip Powell

London SW3

comfortable majority of those who have seen the inside of the building. They may suspect that the client must have been an enlightened patron. They would be right.

Philip Powell

London SW3

learn that, following my application to the DoE (March 7) the DoE Northern Ireland has allocated an officer in its central management branch, through which my future communications will be routed.

This special service purpose is to be for my benefit and is "established to be helpful" to me. In future all my communications with the department "on my own behalf or for my clients", are to be "properly progressed and recorded", as well as "fairly and properly serviced" and responded to with the minimum of delay or misunderstanding, arising from separate contacts with a number of officials.

Like Colin Croft accuses of apathy towards nuclear shelters (News May 30), are not just apathetic. It may be that they would prefer not to be among the survivors of a nuclear attack, or had they got it all wrong in "The Day After"?

No wonder architects have such a bad image.

David Partridge

London W4

cooking, it is rather unfortunate that he sports glasses as thick as bottle bottoms and gets beaten up by macho accountants. He was also heard to say that what he needed most was a husband and not a wife and his greatest artistic ambition seems to be to design a garage for his neighbour. Presumably, it will blend in with the already notable architecture on the close.

He is probably right though.

The public is apathetic when anything nuclear is concerned, but surely they should be persuaded to campaign against the production, testing or deployment of nuclear weapons instead of building shelters for the fortunate few.

Philip Mann

Bristol

DOES the phrase "continuing professional development" fill you with the sort of feeling older readers will recall affecting them when somebody mentioned "cold liver oil"? It was good for you, but the fact that it was compulsory eliminated whatever dubious charms the subject might have held. Thus it is with "cpd", a worthy (indeed essential) area which the construction industry has largely avoided taking too seriously. The only professional body which has brought compulsion unequivocally into cpd policies is the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, which seems, by comparison with rival bodies, to be invariably prepared to take difficult decisions early on — and seems to make the right ones. However, even the denizens of Great George Street were only prepared to introduce compulsion for new members of the profession rather than the existing battalions.

For professional bodies, of course, cpd is a tricky area. If, for example, the RIBA

declares that without validated evidence

## Nuclear apathy?

From Philip Mann

Bristol

Nuclear Weapons Freeze Group

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Matthew Hill

# Straightforward housing issue

the public authorities in Northern Ireland in this matter, however, the association is nevertheless proceeding with the commitment it made to the Divis residents last November, namely assisting them in the preparation of an alternative plan for the estate which we propose to put forward for wider public discussion among the whole community and with the Housing Executive.

Preliminary work has already been done and we are confident that an attractive residential area could be created to replace the Divis flats in such a way that meets all the residents' wishes and places no undue strain on demand for housing in the rest of the Housing Executive's housing stock.

David Hall

London SW1

## Divis beset by prejudice

From Mike Beazley

ALEX McGregor's letter of May 16 is typical of the misunderstanding and prejudice that has beset the Divis people.

I was a member of the TCPA's Planning Aid Unit that visited Divis in the summer of 1985. I was appalled at the living conditions that fellow human beings are having to endure. It is an act of gross irresponsibility to deflect attention away from the main object of the campaign — the demolition of the Divis complex and its replacement with decent housing.

The letter is clearly a personal attack against Brian Anson; something I know he has endured for many years in certain circles but something that is so wrong and unjust. He shows tremendous courage and determination in standing up for what he believes in — human, social and environmental justice.

Finally, I was "much struck" by McGregor's references to Gerry Adams, Arthur Scargill and the Payment of Debt Act. There is no disguising his politics.

Having said all that, does it matter? Not a lot. It is perfectly clear from your front page story (June 6) that more cuts are on

the way and this ritual dance will be repeated up to 1990. What we are observing is the Robbins expansion of the DoE being put into reverse as the client is contracted to meet the shortfall in student numbers at the end of the century. The present round of cuts is just the opening shots, and reports such as the CNAAs just released are just one element in harassing staffs in schools until they don't know whether they are coming or going.

Philip Powell

London SW3

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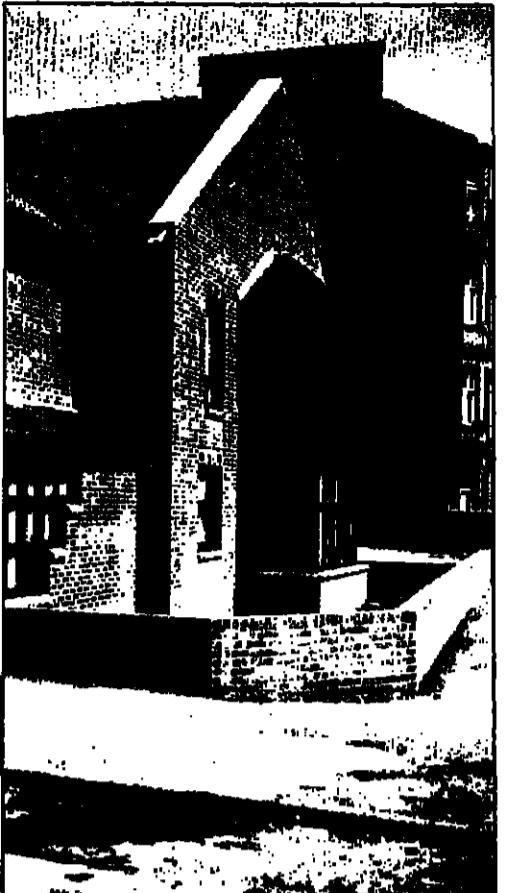
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## City survey

## City survey



Our recent feature on Glasgow (March 7) had to leave out a wealth of material which we now present in this 12-page special report.

## Building Design Partnership

BDP have carried out two city centre infill sheltered housing projects for the Key Housing Association.

Both are designed to integrate the mentally handicapped with other people and avoid an institutional appearance.

The first, at Scott Street, Glasgow, comprises 19 one- to three-bedroom flats on a steeply sloping corner site.

The elevations relate to the neighbouring three- and four-storey tenements. The four-storey development is divided sectionally to allow for changes in level and communal circulation centres on an exposed tubular-steel staircase leading to a glazed roof at top-floor level.

Smooth red facing bricks and pavilions were used externally with painted fair-faced blockwork inside and black and red stained timber

windows and doors. The roof is of blue-black asbestos slate. The project was finished in 15 months for £505,000.

A similar colour scheme has been applied to the second sheltered housing project, at Linthouse. It has blue-black asbestos cement roof slates, red facing bricks and blue and red stained timber window and door frames.

Located on a restricted level corner site next to four-storey tenements and two-storey terraced housing, the scheme is made up of six self-contained one- to three-bedroom flats and a group home of 12 bedsitting rooms with shared lounge, dining, laundry and bathroom facilities.

Circulation in the group home is by means of a central spine corridor on both floors, which is top-lit on the upper level.



The Linthouse scheme was restricted by the corner site and neighbouring tenements.



Rear chimney feature, Linthouse.



Corner elevation.

Blue-black roof tiles offset the brickwork at Linthouse.

Windows and doors. The roof is of blue-black asbestos slate. The project was finished in 15 months for £505,000.

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1. The Fireplace Book by Roxana McDonald. A practical guide, encompassing both functional and aesthetic considerations, to fireplace design, maintenance and restoration. Price £10.95.

2. Building Regulations Explained (Seventh edition) by Powell-Smith and Billington. Covers the new 1985 Regulations for all building types for England and Wales, with extensive illustrations and references to regulations and Approved Documents. Price £14.50 (paperback) £21.75 (hardback).

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The books listed below are available through the Architectural & Construction Bookshop. A special service for readers provided by Morgan-Grampian Construction Press.

17. Design Liability in the Construction Industry (Second edition) by D. L. Cornes. Includes extensive new material on the law of professional negligence including the latest cases after *Prestel*. Price £19.00.

18. *All Hellman Breaks Loose*. Hilarious book which contains over 150 of famous cartoonist Louis Hellman's most popular cartoons. Price £5.50.

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22. Specification 85 by David Marin. Eighty-second edition of this annual reference source for architects and specifiers in the construction industry. Volume 5 is a commissioned new volume devoted entirely to specification clauses. The six volume set is supplied in a library box. Price £57.50.

23. The Interiors Design Workbook: A Job Record and Diary by David Fry PSSA RIBA. Filled with exercises for providing interior designers, with a working tool which sets out all the stages of an interior design project. Price £10.95.

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26. Handbook for Clerk of Works (Third edition) by GIC Department of Architecture and Civic Design. This Third Edition provides step-by-step guidance on the carrying out of all the duties of the Clerk of Works. Price £12.05.

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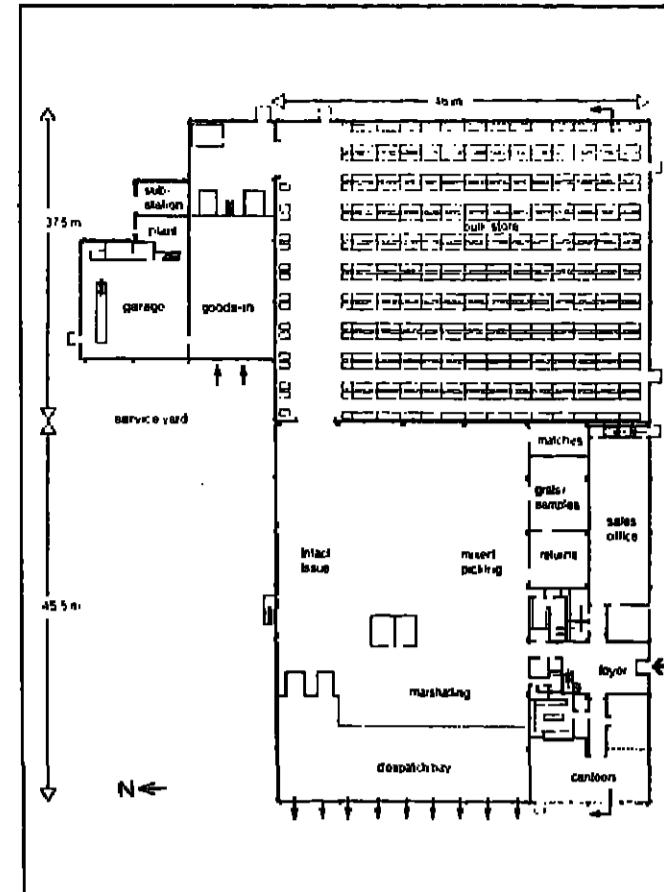
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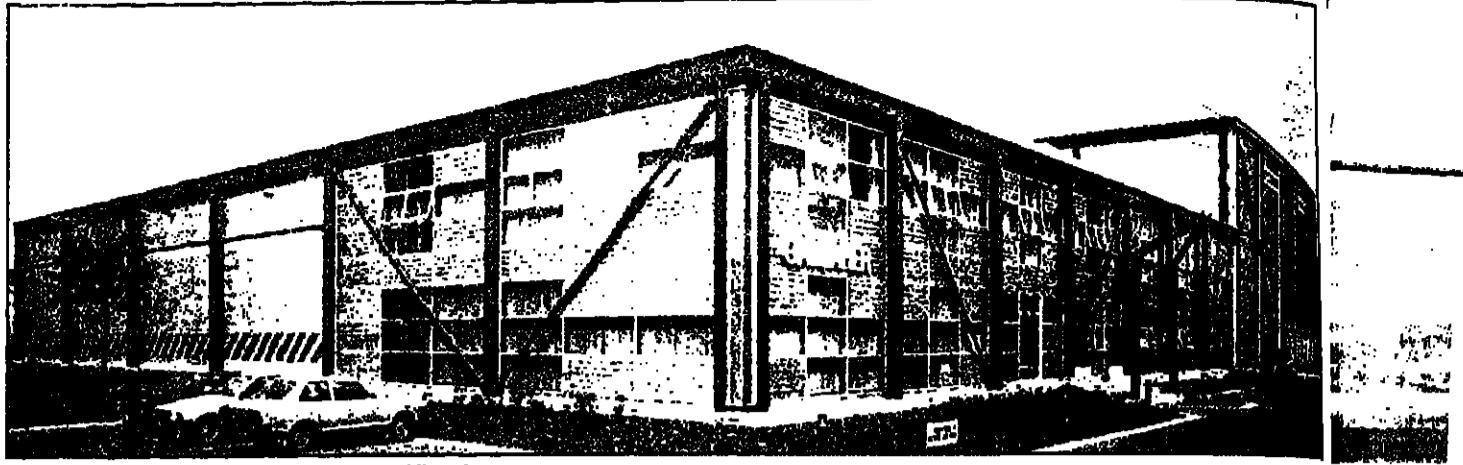
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## Glasgow



Layout accommodates three main functions.

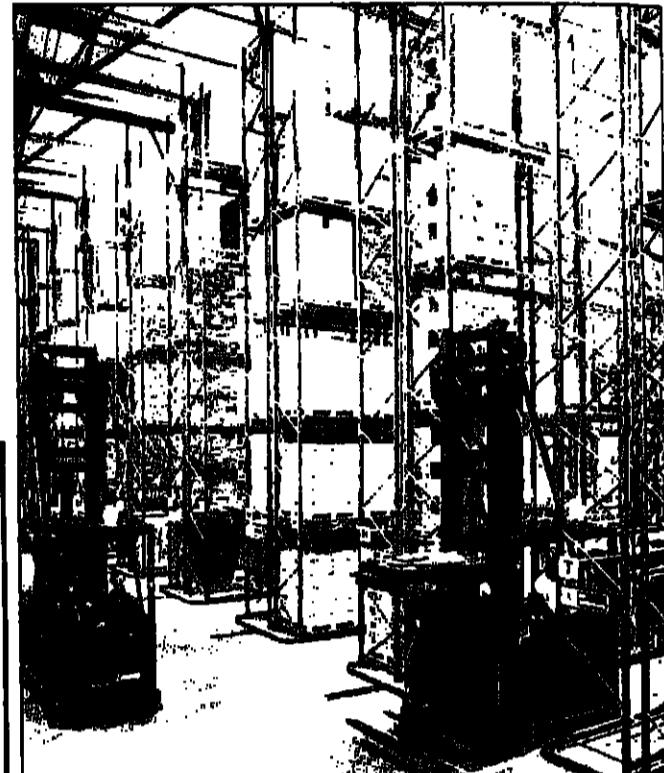


Unified structure and cladding for the varying building elements.  
**BDP—Gallaher tobacco company**

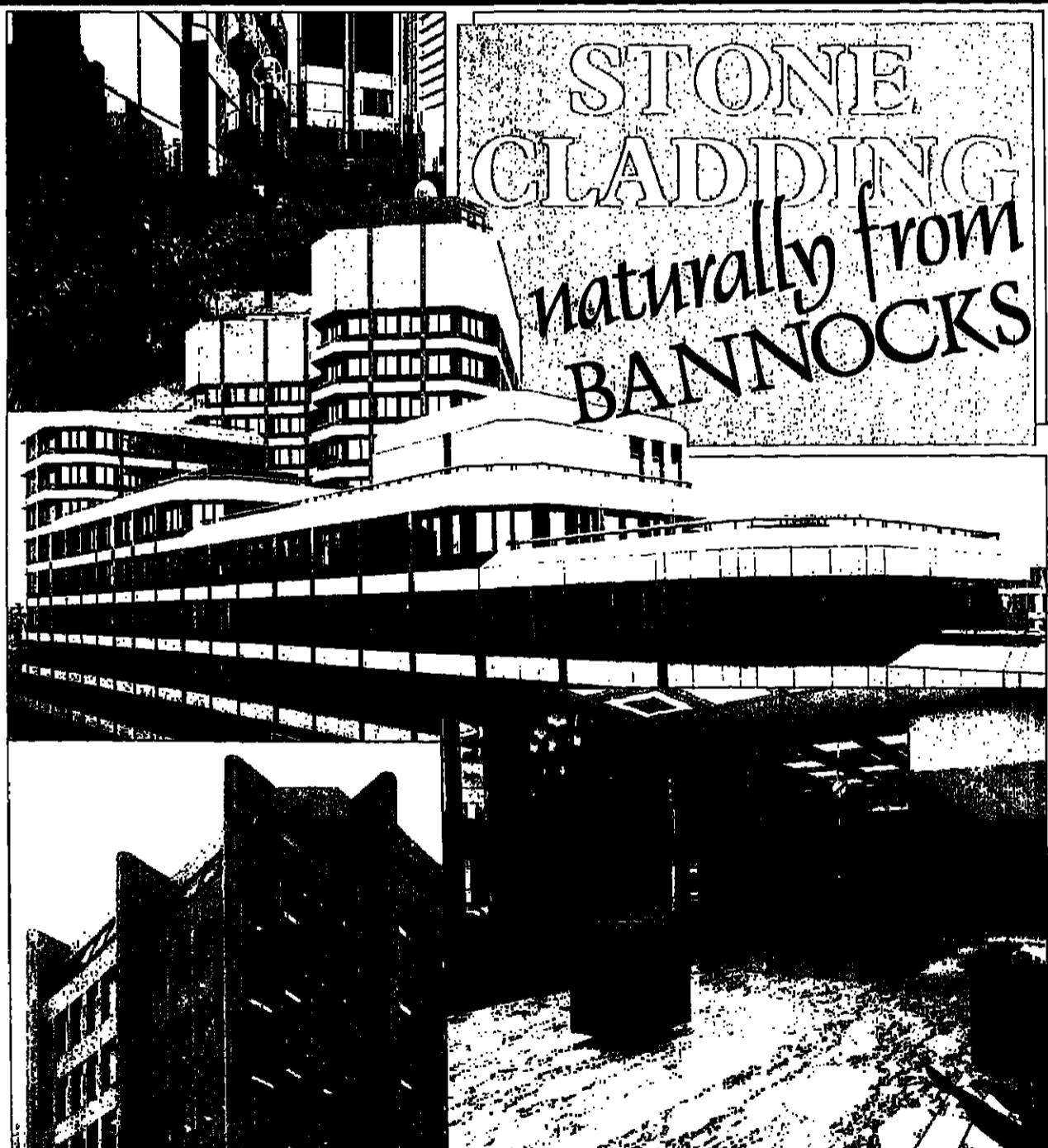
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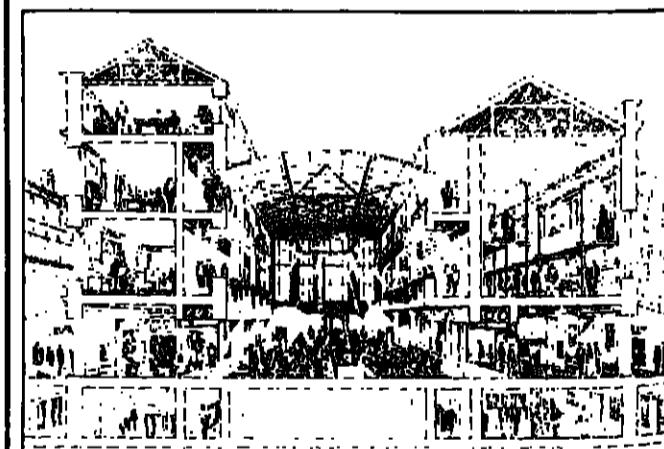
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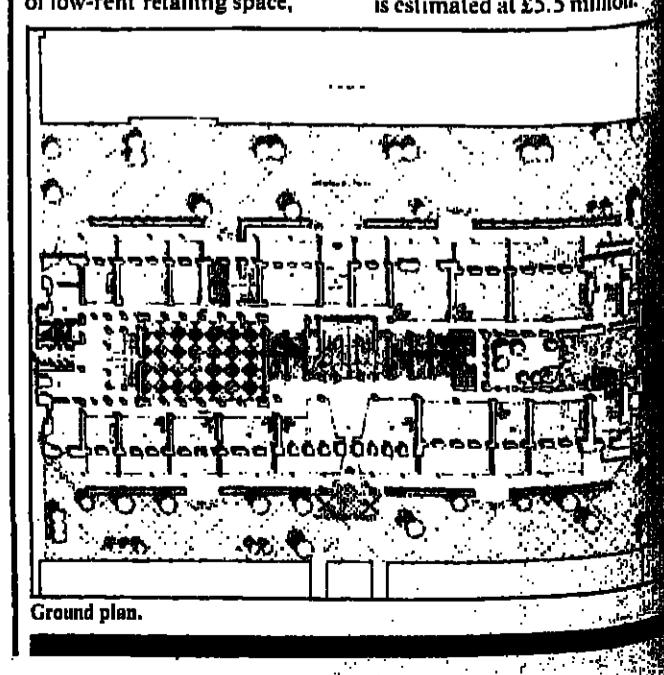


Sectional perspective, Ingram Court Fashion Centre.

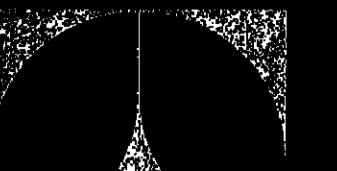
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Ground plan.



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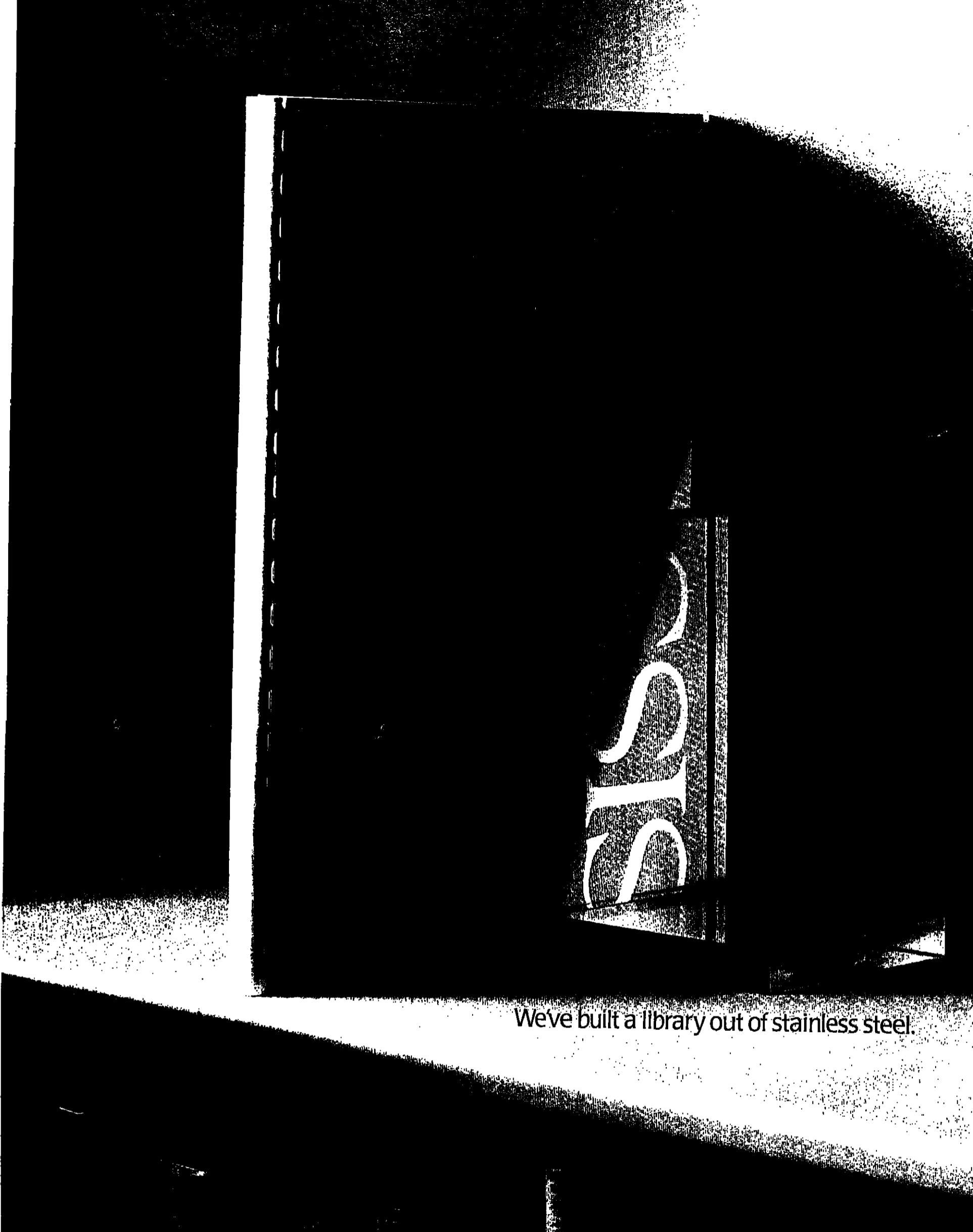
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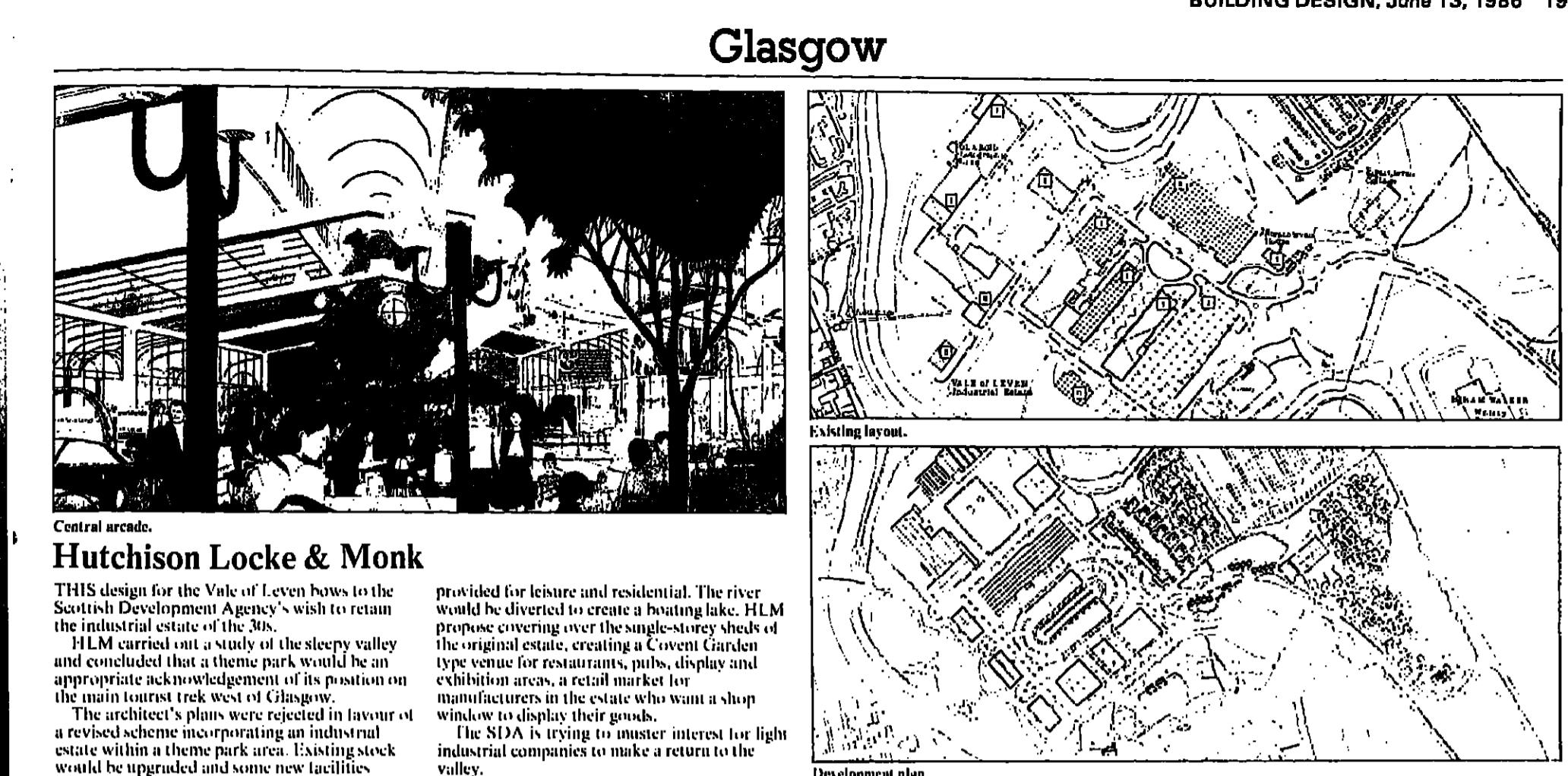
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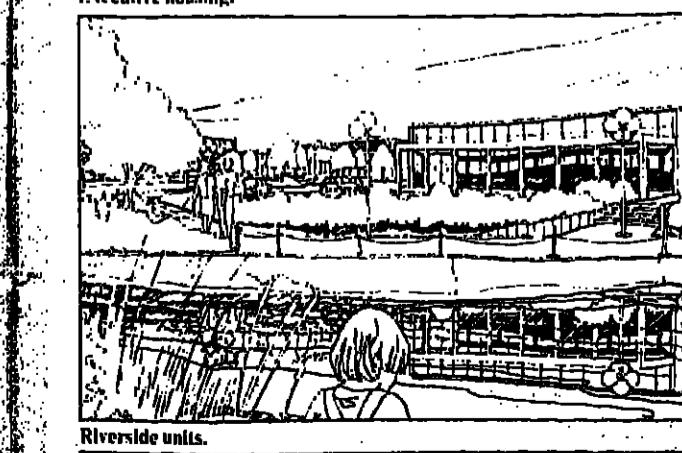
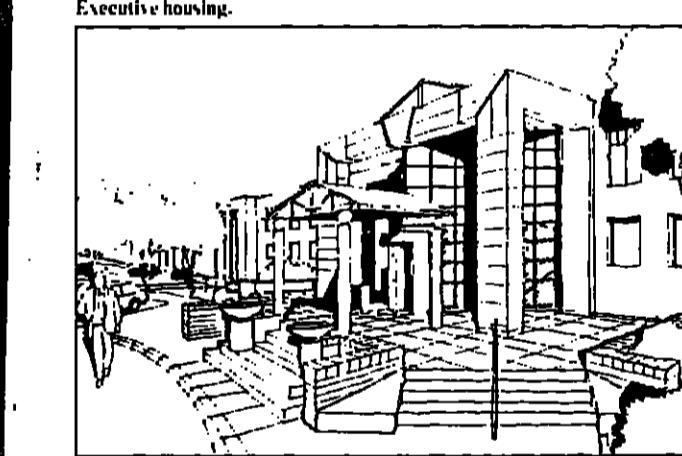
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## Glasgow



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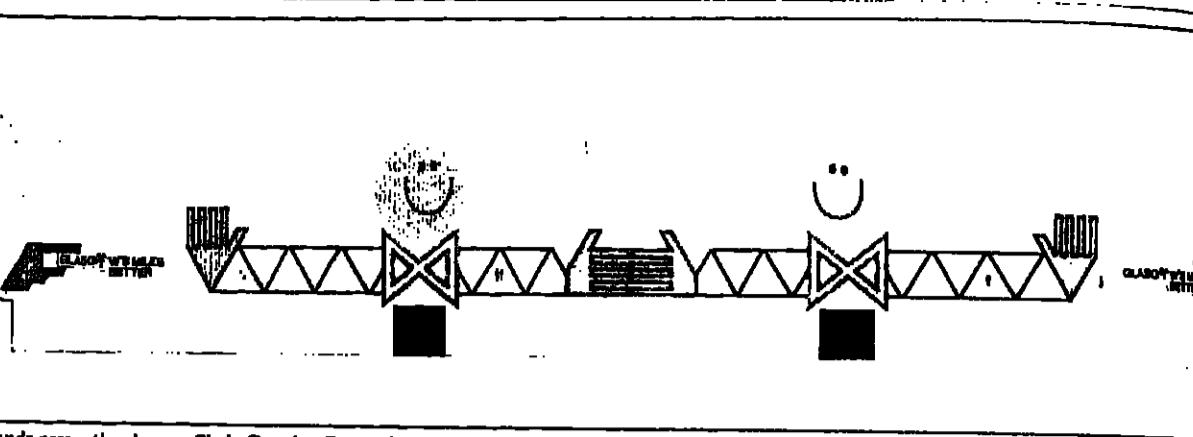
# Glasgow

## The Coleman Ballantine Partnership

COLEMAN Ballantine reach hands across the Clyde in their design for the recent SDH competition to link the garden festival site with the Scottish Exhibition Centre.

The innovative scheme, designed with Sir William Halcrow & Partners (Scotland), interprets the festive nature of the project by combining the smiling face of the "Glasgow's smiles better" campaign with the Scottish

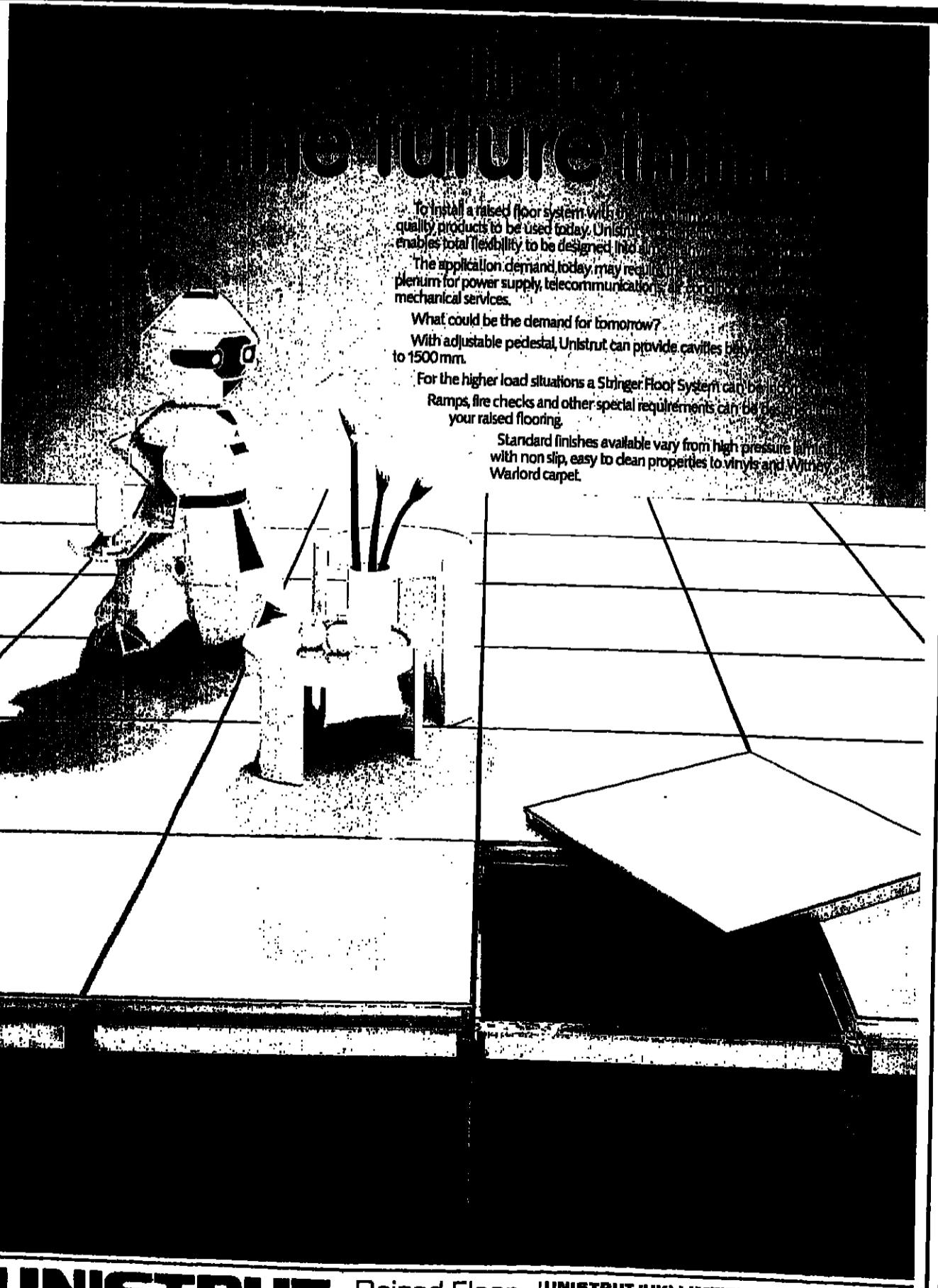
Development Agency logo in neon. These symbols sit astride two turntables allowing traffic access upstream. Red painted light-weight double tubing forms the arm extensions and the arms are lit with neon. By using different lighting effects the hands appear to change position, beckoning and halting river traffic.



Hands across the river - Clyde Crossing Competition scheme.



Proposal to enliven redundant bridge pier.



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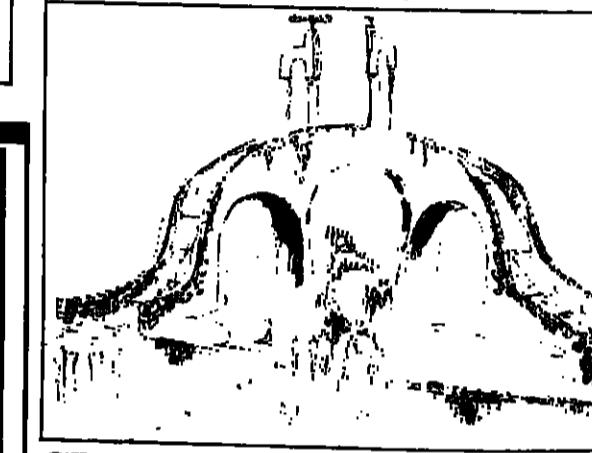
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## CBP — proposal for redundant bridge pier

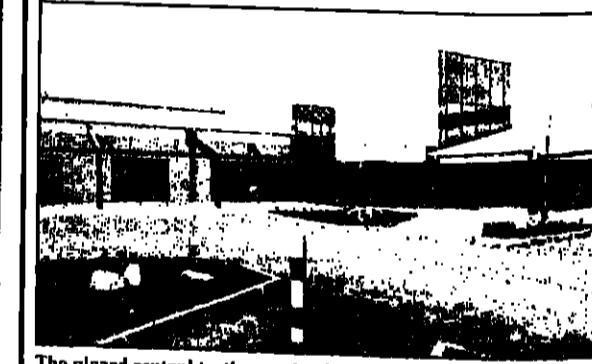
IN an effort to tidy up some of Glasgow's eyesores before the Glasgow Garden Festival, Coleman Ballantine presented the Scottish Development Agency with a scheme to enliven a redundant bridge pier on the Clyde. Although the agency was pleased with the scheme, funding was not available and the design awaits

a financial leg-up. The architects have proposed adding 15m high hands and feet to the top of the pier. These would be made of nylon-coated pvc and supported on a steel cage. Air would be pumped into these extremities, creating a variety of gestures. A lit cigarette is optional extra.



## CBP — festival entrance

IN an effort to mark the source of the Clyde, Coleman Ballantine plan to set up a standpipe during the Glasgow Garden Festival to enhance the main riverside entrance to the festival High Street.



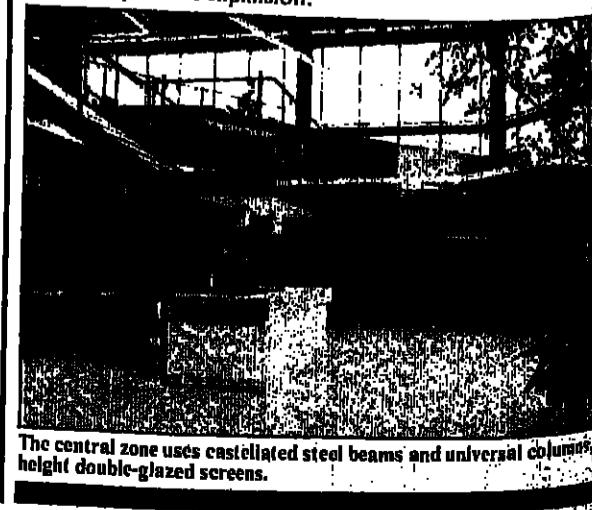
The glazed central testing station links the two office wings.

## Carl Fisher Sibbald & Partners

THE GL Group's brief for offices and workshops for two of its companies demanded a central station complying with BS 5797: 1981 *Direct line signalling systems and remote centres for intruder alarm systems*.

The station was to monitor alarm systems installed throughout the country and had to be protected against various methods of attack. Edinburgh architects Carl Fisher Sibbald & Partners also had to allow for full auxiliary back-up so the station would be operational 24 hours a day and the design had to provide for 20-40 per cent expansion.

The architects came up with a two-storey structure. The office/workshop wings are of castellated steel portal frames with "lean-to" areas for expansion on outer areas. The glazed external walls will move out and the aluminium decking will extend beyond the expandable steel expansion structure. The result is transverse expansion with circulation that improves as the building grows. The office wings intersect with a double-height reception in a double octagonal shape, incorporating the central station at ground level and a lounge above.



The central zone uses castellated steel beams and universal columns, height double-glazed screens.

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## Glasgow

Tony Aldous took a look at a refurbishment project which has turned a dilapidated, roofless shell into a thriving cafe-bar.

QUANTITY surveyor Tom Laurie had just come home from a holiday in the Loire Valley when a developer client working in Glasgow's historic Merchant City rang him.

"Tom, the ruined house in Blackfriars Street we were going to demolish for the car park — the Historic Building Council says it wants us to keep it. It's the doorway that's the interesting bit. Could we just keep that, do you think? Set it in a screen wall and make a landscape feature of it?"

"Hold on," said Laurie, "I'll ring you back." He went running along the River Clyde Walkway, and as he jogged along a better idea crystallised. That idea was to become the Babbity Bowster, a cross between a Scots pub (post-liberalised licensing laws) and a French cafe-with-rooms. He and his brother Fraser (who runs it) opened the Babbity last autumn. It is a phenomenal



As it was — run-down, but with potential.

Gomm & Walker in their *Architecture of Glasgow* attribute it tentatively to Robert and James Adam. Doric columns on either side of a rather grand front door are (as Laurie's client appreciated) its outstanding feature.

But in 1984 the building was a roofless shell. In its 190-year life it had played many roles. The

growth of industry in the East End and the westward movement of the homes of the wealthy limited its days as a prestige town house. It then became successively coffee-shop, rooming house, part of a ropeworks, vegetable wholesalers; then in the mid-1970s, when the vegetable market moved out of central Glasgow, it fell empty and grew increasingly derelict.

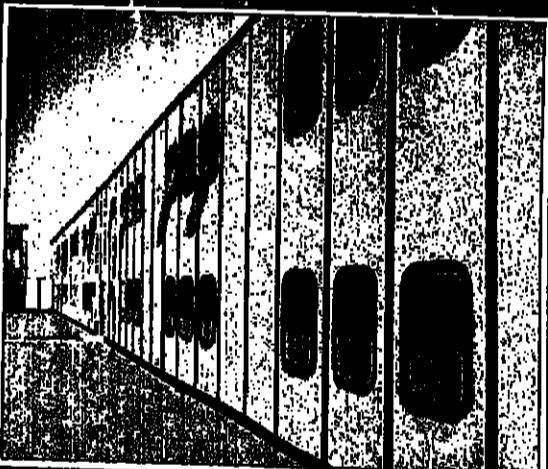
"The major dereliction was caused by a blocked rain water pipe," says Tom Laurie. "All I keep telling clients, the damage done by neglect is greater than the damage done by vandalism."

The Laurie brothers' restoration of the Blackfriars Street building included boldly putting back a third storey, known from a photograph to have been there in 1910, and rebuilding a pediment above it. All this is in stone — which everyone would have liked but would have added perhaps £80,000 to the cost and killed the project — but in brick, rendered and

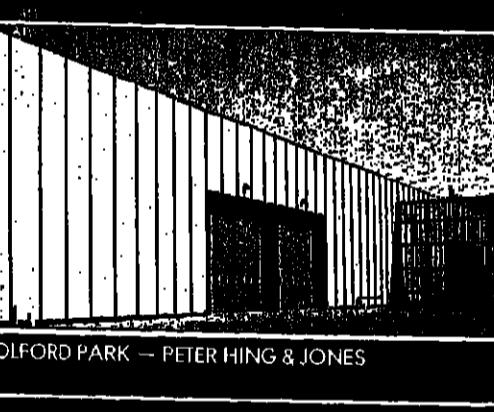


As it is — a lively social centre. (Photo Harry Turner/Glasgow Evening Times)

## State of the Art Gallery



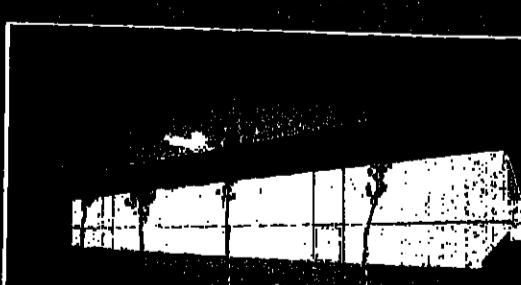
PLESSEY — GWILLIAM & ARMSTRONG



HOLFORD PARK — PETER HING & JONES



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## Glasgow/Landscape

## Children's haven set to rise from the debris

CHRIS Palmer, chairman of the Landscape Institute's Scottish chapter, set up his own practice, Christopher Palmer Associates, in 1983.

Palmer's wife, Fiona, also a landscape architect, keeps the books and helps out at peak periods.

In some ways the practice's most challenging job to date has been Hogarth Park, which they designed to a brief from Glasgow District Council with funding from the Scottish Development Agency. Subject to planning approval, they hope to start on site soon.

The site at Carnwys in east Glasgow is at present derelict. The district needs a new park, but CPA's brief required

them to take account of the line of a proposed link road so that the open space would still be viable if and when the road is built.

The site has in the past been used for tipping and is cut in two by a disused railway embankment.

The railway embankment

consists of ash blinding over a clay core; the tipping material

included unsorted debris from demolished buildings, steel-

waste slag and ash.

Facilities to be provided at

Hogarth Park include several

strong land forms which, with

planting, would screen a variety

of activities from each other and

allow them to go on together.

The budget did not run to

imported topsoil; instead they

proposed to use a mix of

ameliorated railway embank-

ment materials together with

imported peat to spread as a

growing medium over regraded

tip materials.

Robust land-forming is in-

tended to withstand expected

heavy use. Planting will be

mainly whips and transplants of

native species, with some extra-

heavy standard trees, protected

by timber fencing, to give a sense

of present — as distinct from

future.

"We set up guardianship

arrangements with children

planting and looking after

trees," says Palmer. "There are

three primary schools in the

area.

*Landscape architect: Christopher Palmer Associates, QS. Cooper Cromar Associates, Land surveyor: Mowbray Surveyors.*

Sketch proposals for Hogarth Park.

existence of one side of the site of

a well-used community hall, and

the final design places the

various play facilities next to the

building, fencing them off from

the rest of the park so they can be

run on a supervised basis.

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Clydebank Business Park before landscape work began.

Landscapers' age of enlightenment

CLYDEBANK Business Park, says BDP Landscape's Ian McGowan, is a telling example of how the landscape architect in an interdisciplinary practice can get on the ground floor in the planning and design of a new

a five-year period.

The commission specifically

included phases of landscape work as sites became available,

though to an overall landscape plan. The SDA took the enlightened view that new buildings providing new employment deserved a well-designed new landscape.

The Clydebanks site was the former Singer Sewing Machine Works, which the Scottish Development Agency has turned into a bustling centre of new employment.

BDP were engaged as planners and architects, and McGowan was able to make a landscape input right from the start with the planning of the basic infrastructure.

It has even weathered better than one or two of the firms that set up in the park — though most have prospered.

The master plan prepared by BDP called for demolition of selected buildings, construction of some new and conversion and rehabilitation of some old, over

On the reinstated top floor, six bedrooms, small but light and pleasant with furnishings chosen with a light, deft touch — though functionally they have some minor shortcomings. Lots of good bedside lighting is one. Tom Laurie says he deliberately left the detail of Babbity to the staff, and is giving it a few months to discover mistakes before embarking on a come-live blitz.

The basic scheme for the Babbity was designed by Nicholas Groves-Raines architectural practice, who obtained building consents for it. Tom Laurie Associates filled the detail and ran the contract. The total cost including fitting and furnishings was about £325,000.

The Louries are now applying for planning permission for a three-storey extension on a site to the east, to contain another 15 bedrooms and a ground-floor residents' lounge with covered parking behind. The plan is to have it ready time for the garden festival. There will also be a canopy terrace with barbecue giving on to the pedestrian square which has been created by paving a stretch of Blackfriars Street in front of the Babbity. This is part of a more comprehensive conservation and improvement programme for the Blackfriars area of the Merchant City.

They often do so at wooden tables arranged around the long head of the "T" and to the right of the bar, sitting on bentwood seats which Laurie rescued from an old snooker hall and restored for the Babbity. Behind the walls on either side of the "T" stem are, to the left a servery, to the right a new or rebuilt staircase. A goods lift or dumb waiter connects the servery down-wards to beer and food stores in

the basement, up to the main kitchen and to the rebuilt bedroom floor above. It has a linen compartment as well as one for food and drink. Behind is an original rough-walled stonewall — the service stairs — connecting all four floors. It has been simply rendered and painted and a functional handrail added. "I wanted no nonsense there," says Tom. Apart from cost considerations, he wanted parts of the building to tell the story of its past.

The grand first-floor front, all three bays of it, accommodates the Galleria Restaurant, geared to patrons who want a meal out in some style and comfort. Its menu does not differ greatly from that on offer in the bar below, which has food available all day from breakfast till late evening. Behind the first-floor restaurant is the main kitchen.

On the reinstated top floor,

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and pleasant with furnishings

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programme for the Blackfriars area of the Merchant City.

THE "Milling Space" — the central space in the Glasgow Garden Festival's main site, in which visitors can "mill about" before setting off in the direction of the various theme areas — is being designed by BDP Landscape's Glasgow office under Ian McGowan.

It is, he says, "the eye of the

daisy"; the petals are the five

theme areas that radiate from it.

But with a diameter of 96 metres,

it is quite some eye.

Once his final designs are

approved, McGowan hopes to

be on site in the spring and by

the summer to be well advanced

with earth forming and grading.

Planting will follow in the

autumn.

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## Glasgow/Garden Festival

## Pickering &amp; McDonald

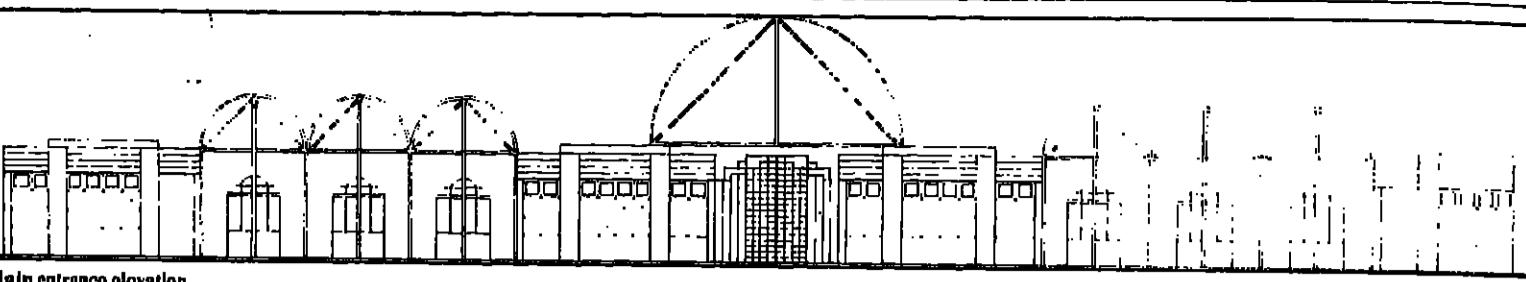
IAN Pickering and Alistair McDonald, both lecturers at the Glasgow School of Art and the Macintosh School of Architecture, decided to set up a new practice after winning the competition to design the main entrance buildings for the garden festival.

Architects were asked to submit designs for two new buildings to be sited at Mavisbank Quay and at the Scottish Exhibition & Conference Centre piazza.

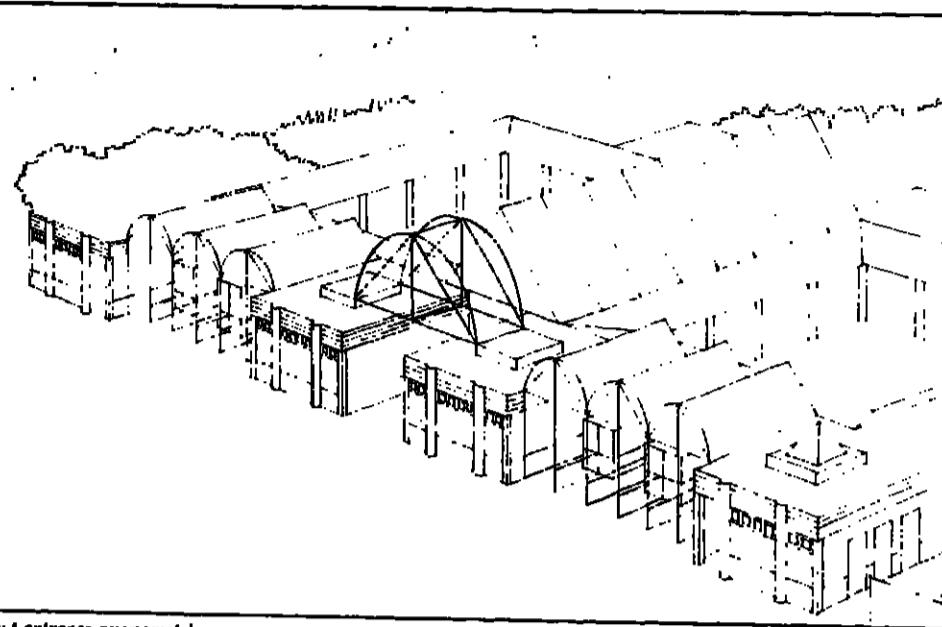
Both Pickering & McDonald's entrances are identical in plan, though allowing for the requirement of each site, and retaining modular flexibility.

Their scheme includes garden cafes and shelters, to provide shade and relaxation. They were conceived as frame and panel buildings with simple paved floors, built on the kit-of-parts principle to provide a practical space.

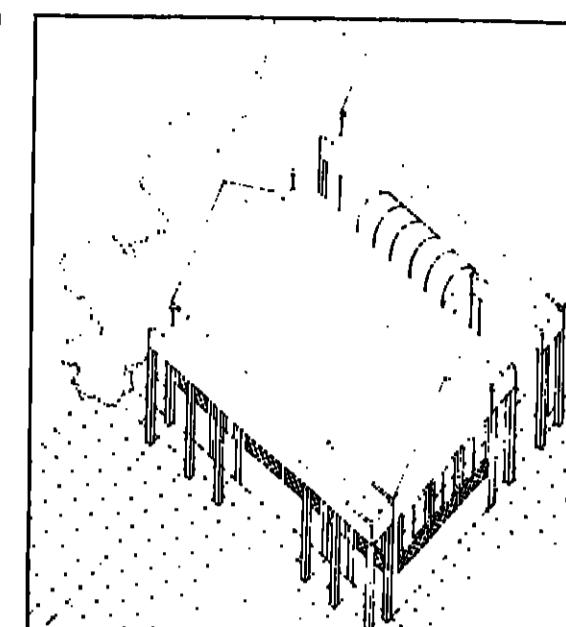
Colour is an integral part of all elements in their proposal, chosen to communicate a sense of festival and to help co-ordinate information and signing.



Main entrance elevation.



East entrance axonometric.



Garden cafe and toilets.

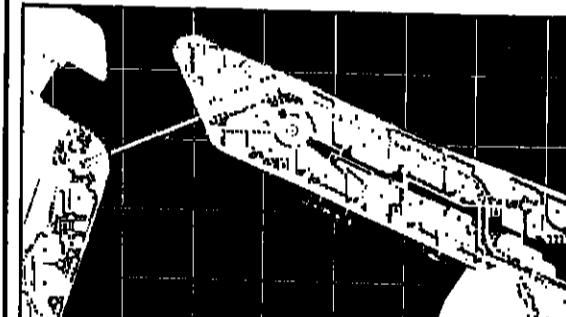
## Derek Lovejoy &amp; Partners

THE Manchester office of Derek Lovejoy & Partners won first prize in the landscape design competition for the water and maritime theme area for the Garden Festival.

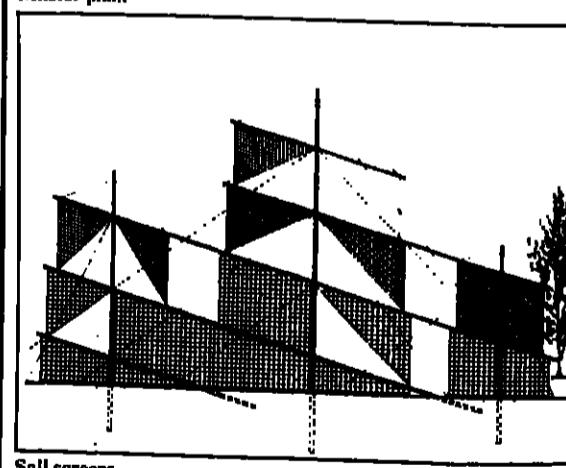
This award makes it three in a row for DLP Manchester in garden festival competitions, and as there have only been three such competitions the "hat-trick" is a major triumph.

The design for the water and

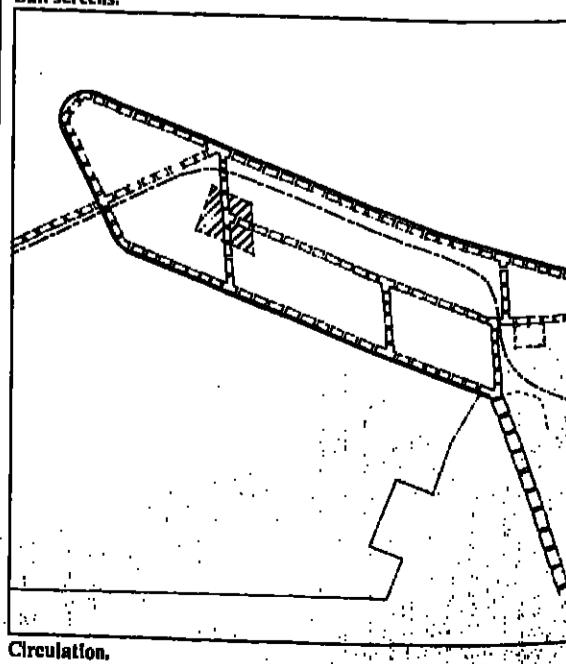
maritime area, prepared by Will Williams, originator of the previous competition-winning designs at Stoke National Garden Festival and Liverpool International Garden Festival, relies upon the use of traditional themes of square rigged ships and contemporary themes of ship building and oil rig construction to paint allegorical statements in three-dimensional forms.



Master plan.



Sail screens.



Circulation.

THE LHT LETTERS  
WEEK 8

**To the partners and associates of Casson Conder Partnership, The Miller Bourne Partnership, Foster Associates Ltd., Michael Manser & Associates, Duffy Eley Giffone Worthington, W.F. Newman & Associates, Stanley Peach & Partners, Joseph & Partners and The Halpern Partnership.**



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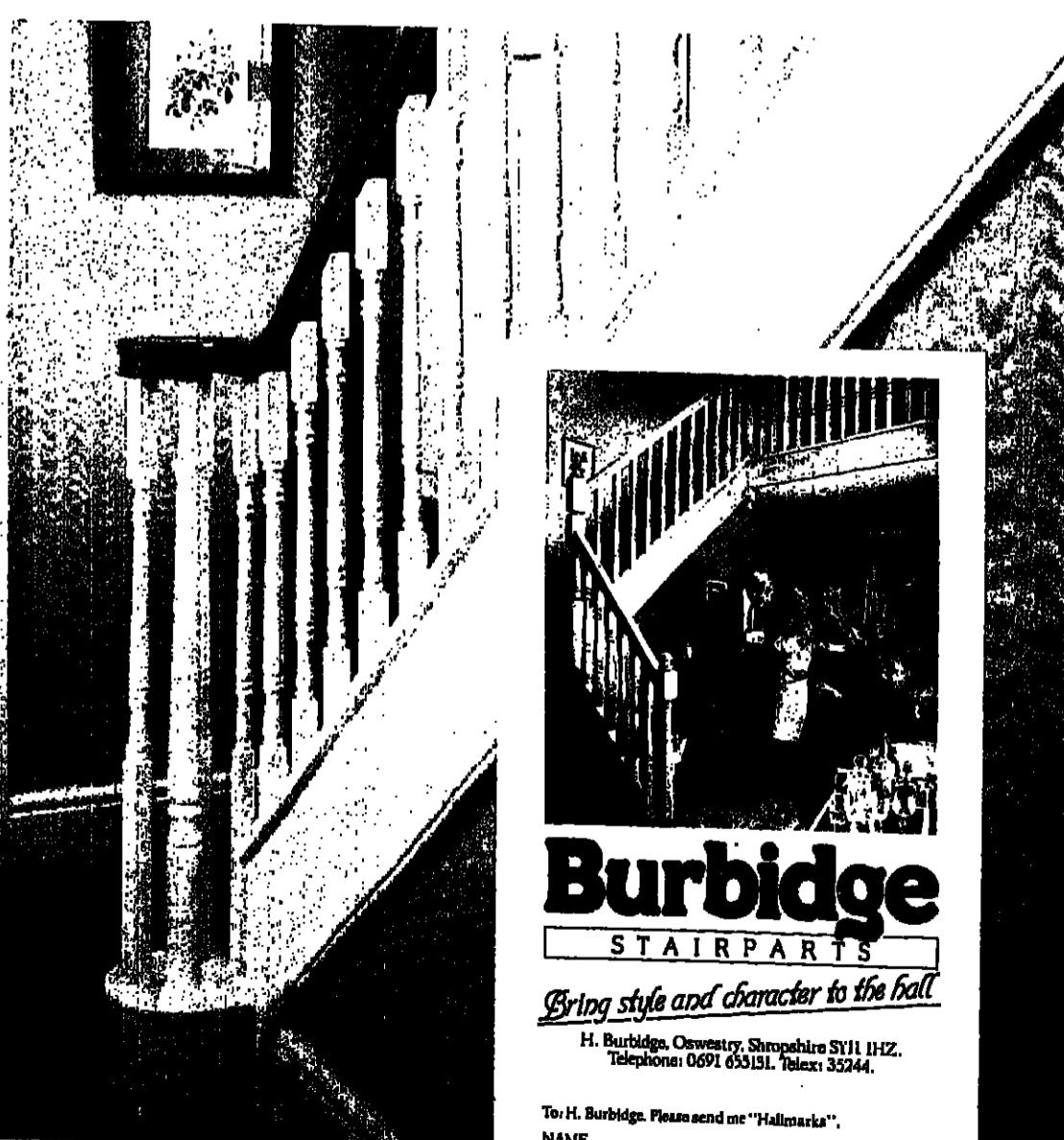
*Re: The Colourbox*

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Until Tuesday then...



## Glasgow

Concluding our Glasgow feature, Colin Porteons, project leader at Technical Services Agency, describes its community-based service, helping tenants to improve their environment.

TECHNICAL Services Agency Ltd is one of the very few genuinely tenant-controlled community technical aid centres in Britain.

It was established by a group of tenant activists who were involved in a wide cross section of tenants and community organisations. These ranged from anti-dampness groups to community councils and modernisation campaigns. Their experience in community action led them to the conclusion that tenant organisations needed access to independent technical expertise.

Generally such a service was denied to tenant groups because they could not afford to pay professional fees; they decided the only way round this problem was to set up their own technical service. It was a priority of the group that the service should be completely tenant-controlled, and that the management structure of the agency should be built around this principle of user control over services provided.

In 1983 the group was successful in obtaining funding through the Urban Aid Programme to set up a community technical aid centre on this structure (illustrated). After an inception period, TSA became fully operational in its own premises — a converted shop shell in the east end of Glasgow's city centre — towards the end of 1984. TSA does have the ability to generate fees, where these can be identified and claimed by groups from a funding source. Such revenue is simply ploughed back into TSA Ltd to improve the service it provides to the community.

TSA provides a full range of architectural services. In practice the work divides between providing technical reports on housing defects and undertaking design projects with groups who intend to provide new community facilities. In the case of design projects, tenants work closely with the architect and are involved in all the decisions made throughout the course of the project.

TSA's technical reports are used as an integral part of tenants' campaigns. It is normal for one of TSA's architects to spend time with the group explaining to them in detail what is going wrong with their house, why, and what can be done to remedy the problem. Armed with this knowledge and backed up by a technical analysis, the tenants are in a far stronger position to argue the case for more resources to be allocated to improving their housing conditions.

Because fuel poverty and consequent condensation dampness, mould growth, discomfort and health related problems are endemic in much of Glasgow's housing stock, in-depth thermal analysis has become a special field of exper-

# Holding out a helping hand

required to secure Scottish Office approval.

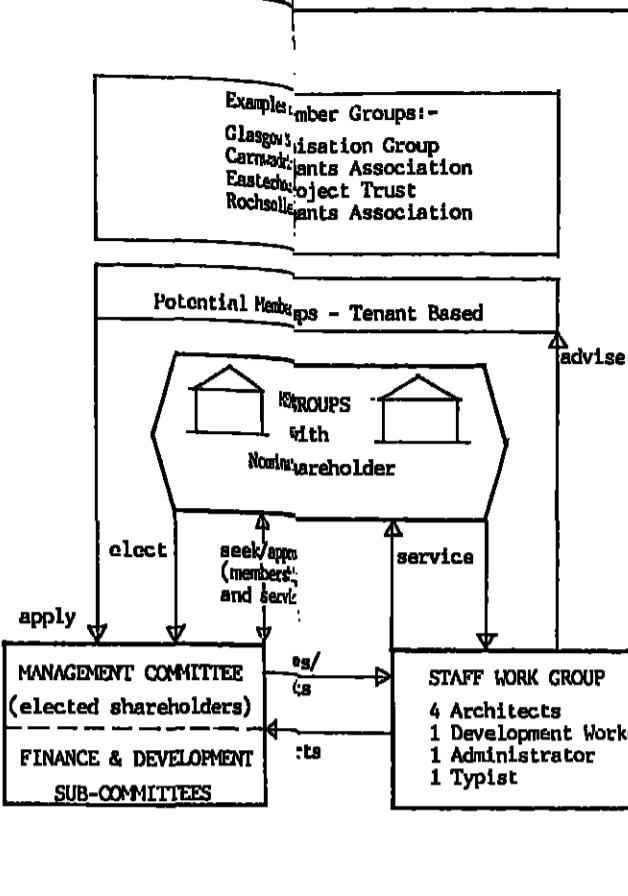
This actually managed to achieve an increase in funding of £40,000. The management committee of TSA only accepted the referral on the condition that the building users would control the brief and exercise control over all major design decisions. The architect liaised with a group of 15 people who have on several occasions overruled his decisions and judgments and developed and implemented their own ideas.

The project is run by a policeman with the support of 12 MSC workers. A two-tier management committee operates with community education workers, priests and ministers, users and mandatory sprinkling of celebrities and local notables.

It is now regularly booked for wedding receptions! A surprising turn-up for two "wavey tin" huts.

## Fabric condition survey — Hallside Action Group

Hallside Village, 28 houses on the outskirts of Glasgow, is a product of the industrial expansion of the 19th century and it could be said that living conditions are worse now than then. Originally built to house the workers of a steel company, the present residents are tenants of a private property company. As the fortunes of the steel industry and the interest of the owners faded, so did the village. This building is considered so impressive by the local community



How Technical Services Agency is structured.

## Glasgow



These "wavey tin" sheds have been given a new lease of life following a TSA study.

sources of funding and renew pressure on the owners and local and international authorities. In late 1985, a promise of a low-interest loan was secured from the ECSC when the report was presented by the group's EuroMP. In turn, this encouraged the local authority to offer to buy the village to hand over to a local housing association for rehabilitation.

In 1987 the residents of Hallside may therefore finally be in decent housing under their own control.

## Investigatory surveys — Bison system, Bellshill; Myton system, Wishaw; subsidence, Possilpark

A significant proportion of the TSA workload involves the

investigation of investigative reports, with topics ranging from environmental to housing related problems. The common denominator in each case is invariably a "nuisance" or "annoyance" factor to the detriment of our client groups' living and housing conditions.

To date report topics have included investigations into: asbestos in housing; Bison system-build housing at Bellshill; Myton system-build at Wishaw and structural movements — ground conditions, construction methodology, water tables, traffic vibration and site drainage to name but a few.

Survey findings revealed that the cracking observed was structural in nature and symptomatic of differential settlement to building foundations as a result of subsidence. Also these maisonettes have exposed north facing gables and the south walls are solid brickwork on the access stairwells. The heating provision is an electric warm-air circuit on-off peak tariff, serving the ground floor living spaces only, and the wholly convective system is inappropriate in relation to the heavy mass building shell.

The second floor deck in

particular provides archetypal "cold bridges" with resultant condensation/dampness problems on the ceiling of rooms below. Also these maisonettes have exposed north facing gables and the south walls are solid brickwork on the access stairwells. The heating provision is an electric warm-air circuit on-off peak tariff, serving the ground floor living spaces only, and the wholly convective system is inappropriate in relation to the heavy mass building shell.

The proposal is to economically upgrade insulation, heating and ventilation, including clothes-drying provisions, to provide dry, comfortable homes with affordable running costs. The adopted solutions will be taken in full consultation with the tenant and will of course be subject to financial limitations. However it is proposed that one measure will be to glaze in east facing access decks to form entry buffers.

The finished report then formed the basis for a campaign mounted by the tenants group in an attempt to resolve the situation. Sadly, however, the report findings were not accepted. The tenants' fight continues.

## Thermal analysis — Pilot Retrofit Project, DRI (dampness remedy initiative), Bridgeton

TSA intends to make a contribution to Energy Efficiency Year by undertaking to retrofit two damp houses. This exercise will demonstrate that it is possible with appropriate insulation, heating and ventilation to improve local authority housing stock at an economic cost to provide homes which people can afford to keep warm and comfortable.

As with all TSA's project work, tenants will be closely involved at all stages of the project and will work in close contact with TSA architects.

Technical objectives: the proposed target for this pilot

is still at a formative stage, but is already a recognised and much needed catalyst force in Glasgow. Tenant-based groups are possibly more active and better organised in Glasgow than any other UK city. Control of their own independent technical resource provides a strong platform for an effective voice in improving their living environment.



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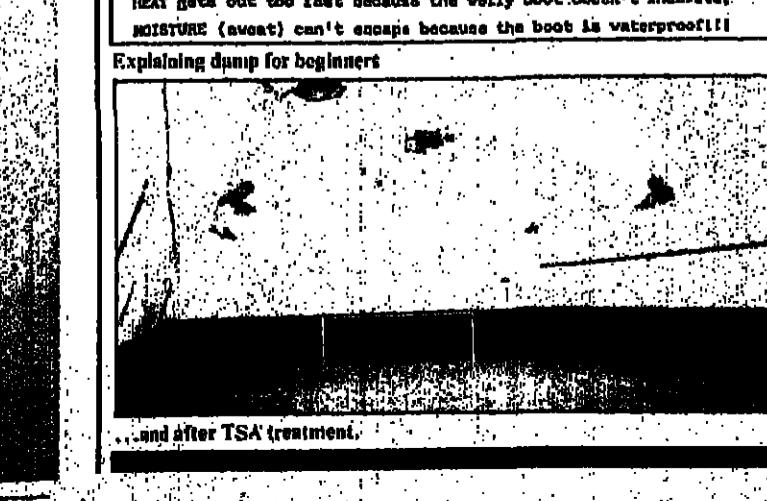
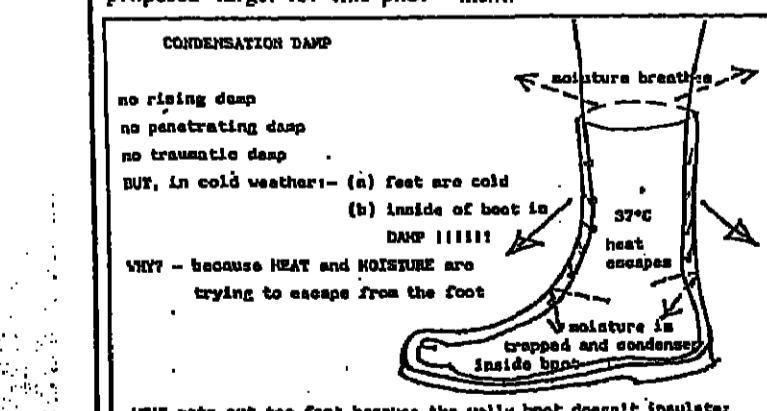
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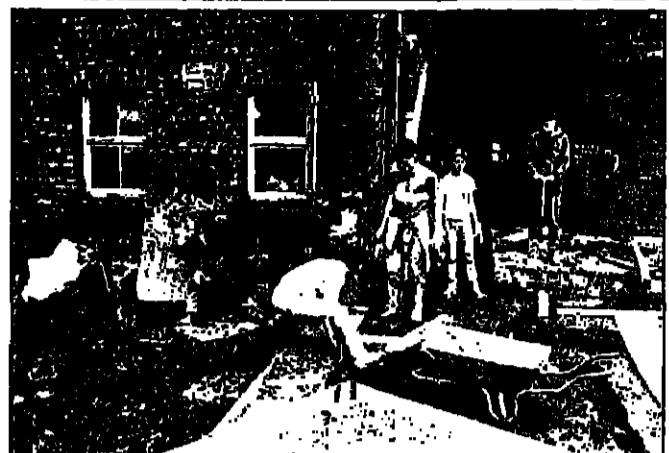


and after TSA treatment.

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## Community Enterprise Awards

Today at Portland Place, Prince Charles will be presenting the first awards in *The Times*/RIBA Community Enterprise Scheme 1985-86. Nearly 200 schemes were entered for the awards, which have been made on the basis of imagination, viability and how well the entries have fulfilled a need. The seven judges included three architects — Rod Hackney, John Lane and Andrew Derbyshire —



**Award: Derry Inner City Project, Londonderry Inner City Trust**  
THE old city of Londonderry, originally built in the 17th century and one of the few remaining walled cities in Europe, has been subject to years of neglect and devastation as a result of the troubles. Property values in the area are low and existing holders have generally preferred to take compensation for damaging, rather than stay and rebuild.

In 1981 the North West Centre for Learning & Development, a group concerned with individual and community development, initiated the Inner City Project, under the direction of an ex-building foreman, Patrick Doherty, to revitalise the devastated Derry environment. In so doing, the centre aimed to create employment and exploit the tourist potential of the area. The centre has a broad based management committee with representatives from trade, professional, religious and civic sections of the community. A trust including church leaders and the mayor of the city, was established to develop the project.

The concept was to rebuild derelict properties using local labour to create various amenities for young people, including craft workshops, training facilities and libraries,



and encourage tourism by developing an historic walk.

The finance package for this project is a combination of Youth Training Programme and Action for Community Employment funding for the labour costs, with the Derry city council, Irish American Cultural Institute, the Ireland Fund of America and a number of other American Irish organisations



and individuals donating money for maintenance.

Initial capital for the sites and derelict buildings was raised by bank loans, the Irish Society, the Ecumenical Development Co-operative Society and the Irish Ecumenical Church Loan Fund. Since the Derry Inner City Project was initiated in 1981, eight buildings have been completed. Three more are under



construction and four have received planning permission. The craft village is in the planning stages and the 15th century castle is nearing completion. Some 500 people are now employed or in training on this venture, making it the second highest employer in the district after DuPont Chemicals. Due to the letting of completed premises for training and educational purposes, cash is being



generated and the cash flow projections indicate that in three years the income available will cover capital and interest repayments.

Any surplus money available will be used to acquire further existing derelict buildings.

The assessors commented: "An ingenious range of activities covering all the building

trades, stained glass, textiles and indexing local records makes the activity of this venture particularly commendable. The Inner City Trust has realised many of the very objectives which other groups have only talked about.

"City dereliction has given way to a busy, optimistic group of buildings full of life and fulfilling gainful activity."



**Award: Laird School of Art repair scheme, Birkenhead, Merseyside Laird Enterprise Trust Association**

the building could be used to set up small-scale enterprises. Between them the small enterprises would cover the overheads and make the building self-supporting under the management of the residents' own association.

ABOVE and below: Residents in the Conway area of Birkenhead came together with help from Nottingham University's Education for Neighbourhood Change unit to survey the wasted resources, human and material, of the area and to work out how they could be put to good use. With funding from Wirral Borough Council they visited about 1,400 households and checked on every disused building. After long negotiations they secured the Laird School of Art, a substantial Victorian building owned by the council but unoccupied for more than two years, and suffering from neglect, vandalism and arson.

They formed the Laird Enterprise Trust Association and, with the assistance of the Town & Country Planning Association and the Manpower Services Commission, set up a community programme to undertake basic repairs so that

A firm of local architects, Innes Wilkin Ainsley Gorman, have provided technical supervision of the repair work, and as the work proceeds, floor by floor, residents' enterprises are moving in, literally, from the basement up. A pottery, a school furniture repair service, a local artist, and a meals/sandwich delivery service on "the flying bullet bike" are already in operation, and other users are lining up to occupy additional work areas as they become available. A small team, funded by MSC Voluntary Projects Programme, is providing business planning advice and follow-up.

Outside the building, space is reserved for a creche/play area with a dragons mural already designed and painted by neighbouring school children, who are now designing a castle climbing frame.

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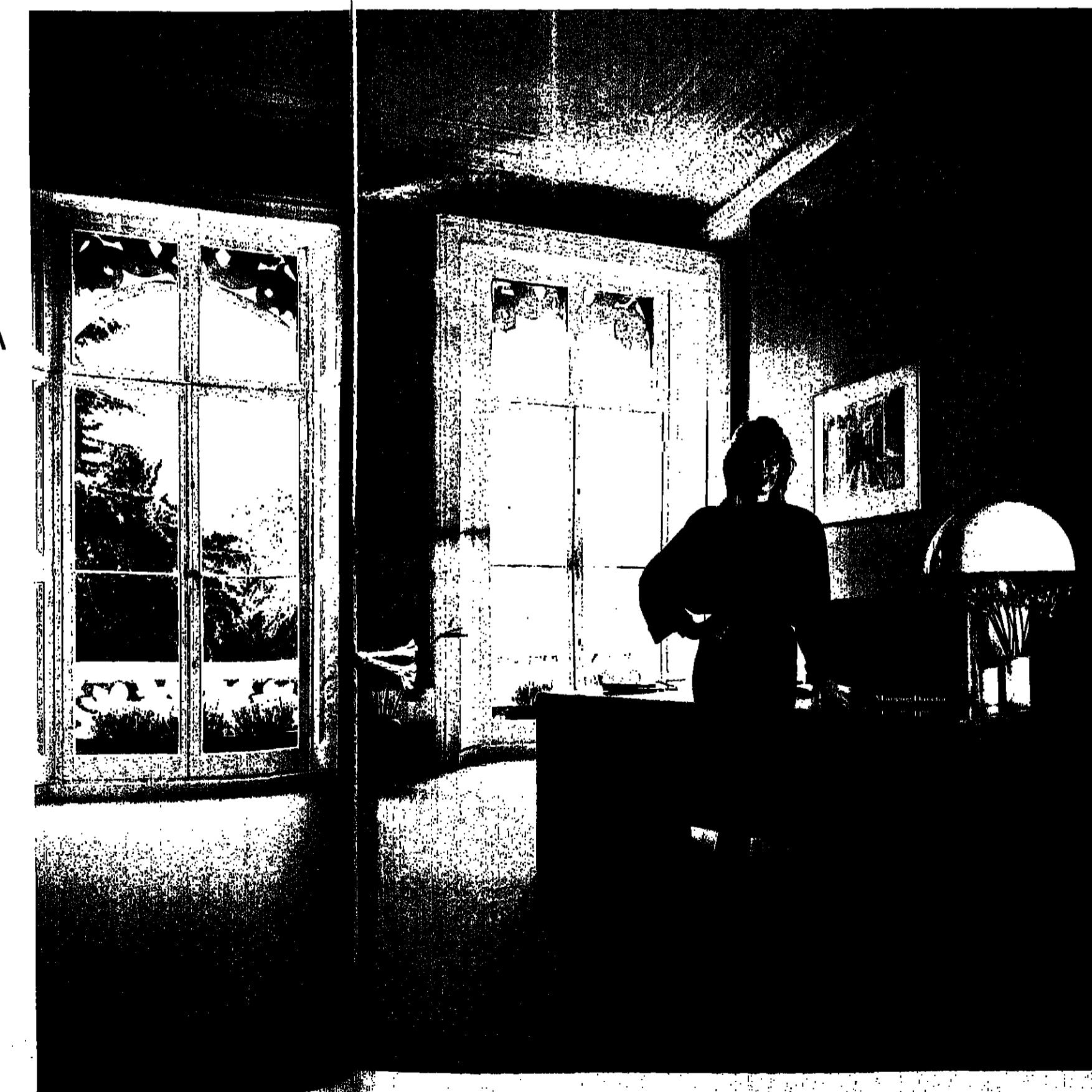
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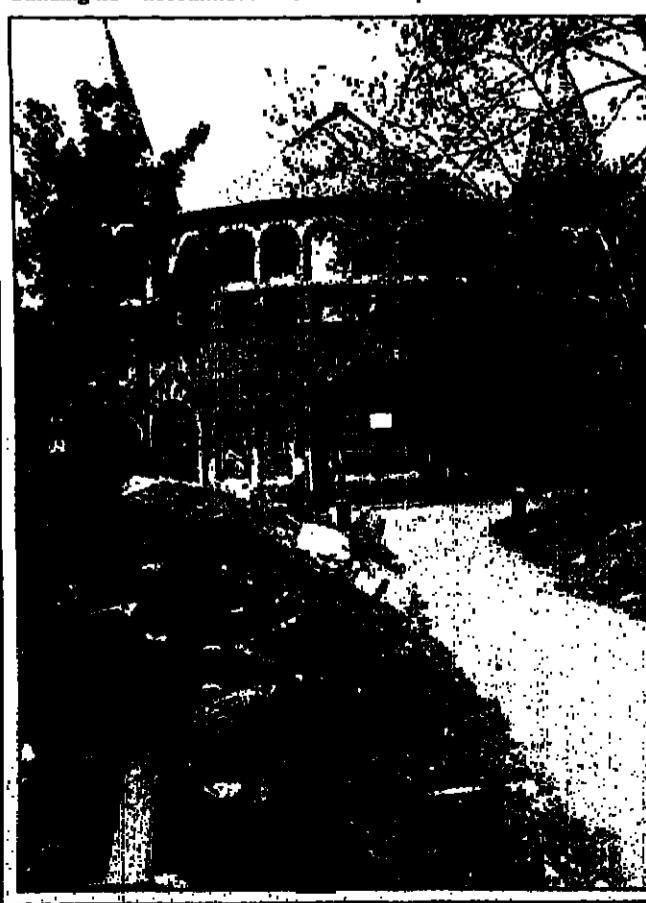


**Award: Tabernacle Community Centre, Notting Hill, London. The Tabernacle Community Association Ltd**

The Tabernacle has progressed from a position of potential bankruptcy in 1981 to a relative financial security, with support from the borough council and various charitable organisations, supplemented by income levied from bookings, events and the bar. Additionally, grants from the borough and Manpower Services Commission have enabled the start of the Tabernacle painting and decorating community programme scheme.

The assessors commented: "(we) were impressed by the large size of the project and the steady and well organised programme, which was enthusiastically run by the committee and staff. We

understand it is now used as a focal point for the Notting Hill festival and will now become the focal point for the entire area".



## Community Enterprise Awards

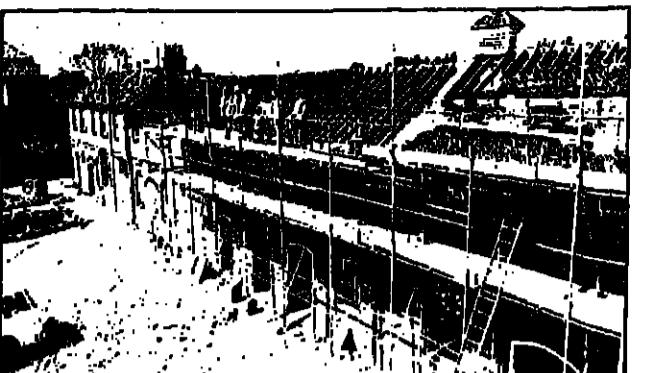
### Award: Tideway Yard, Mortlake, London.

IN 1978 the local community became concerned over the future of a set of dilapidated buildings between Mortlake High Street and the River Thames in the London borough of Richmond. The council's proposal was to demolish all the buildings and create an "open space" at the cost of £1 million.

Local residents formed the Mortlake Community Association (MCA) in order to attempt to persuade the council that the buildings, which were in a conservation area, were worth saving and could be put to worthwhile community use. The MCA formulated a detailed brief which was eventually accepted by the council and offered to potential developers by way of an open competition. The brief called for community workshops and studios for start-up firms, housing units, a youth club, social facilities, council depot and a riverside cafe with landscaping and parking.

The project has come to fruition only as a result of total commitment on the part of the MCA (which has developed into an association of 400 members in three years) and their architect/developers Gillian Harwood and Philip Lancashire.

The project is not receiving subsidies or grants of any kind and it took two years to raise the finance to realise the scheme. The project has now been implemented with borrowed money but at commercial rates. W J Marston & Son Ltd will carry out the building works and finance this project in its entirety, selling the flats to the owners and acting as bankers for the workshops which will be



managed by the architect/developers on their behalf.

The assessors commented that, "MCA is an example which shows how the local

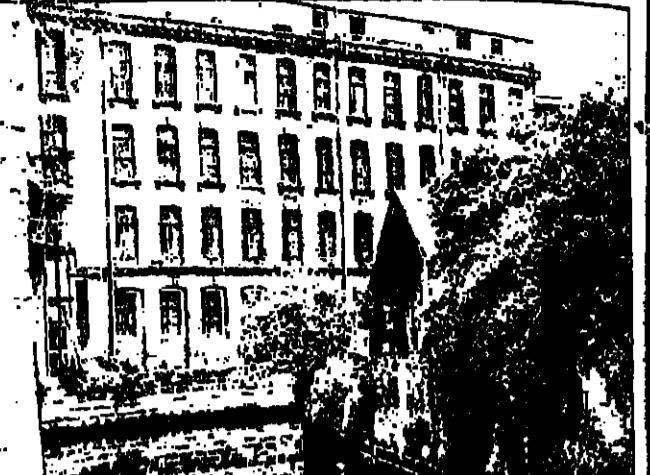
community can influence projects initially, develop the idea and lead to its commercial exploitation but still retain the overall interest in the way in which it should develop".

### Award: Ouseburn Warehouse, Newcastle Upon Tyne. Ouseburn Co-operative

In 1980 the freehold of a large disused whisky warehouse, situated on a tributary of the Tyne, was bought by community worker, Mike Mould. In the following five years, a group of local craftsmen and small businesses working with Mould through self-build work, created within the redundant warehouse a wide variety of facilities for their own use including workshops, a recording studio, a pottery, an artist's studio, offices for a community theatre group, rehearsal space and a residential flat. But because of limited funds, lack of co-ordination and overall design concept, essential work for the building fabric and the provision of basic amenities was not possible at this time.

In 1985 the users decided to form a co-operative to manage the building and commission a feasibility study. This first stage, made possible by an RIBA Community Project Grant, local architect Peter Lambert and co-operative consultant Nick Murgatroyd advising on the management, legal and financial aspects, was undertaken to generate interest and support from the local authority. Basic proposals were drawn up for essential works to the building. The co-operative achieved credibility and was able to negotiate with the council for financial assistance.

The building offers 35,000sq ft of space and basic repairs will cost approximately £130,000. It has been estimated that self-build work on individual floors, serviced space could be available for under £10 per sq ft.



Although the Ouseburn Warehouse has passed the initial feasibility stage and received some local funding, the real success and continued development of the project is dependent on the raising of £100,000 for the capital works required to meet statutory regulations. The co-operative has identified the separate costs needed to cover particular parcels of work, thus enabling potential funders to contribute to a specific part of the whole phase one development. Long term, once the capital works are completed, the co-operative hopes to be self-financing by acquiring a 99-year leasehold and subletting space to its member organisations.

There are currently 40 people using the warehouse space for their particular enterprises. The full realisation of the project will bring a significant building back into positive use and provide economic space for small businesses and community arts/educational/recreational organisations.

The assessors comment: "Such a project is a development of the concept of managed workshops, identifying local social entrepreneurs, developing their own business skills leading to running an organisation which will make its own way, evolving according to need".

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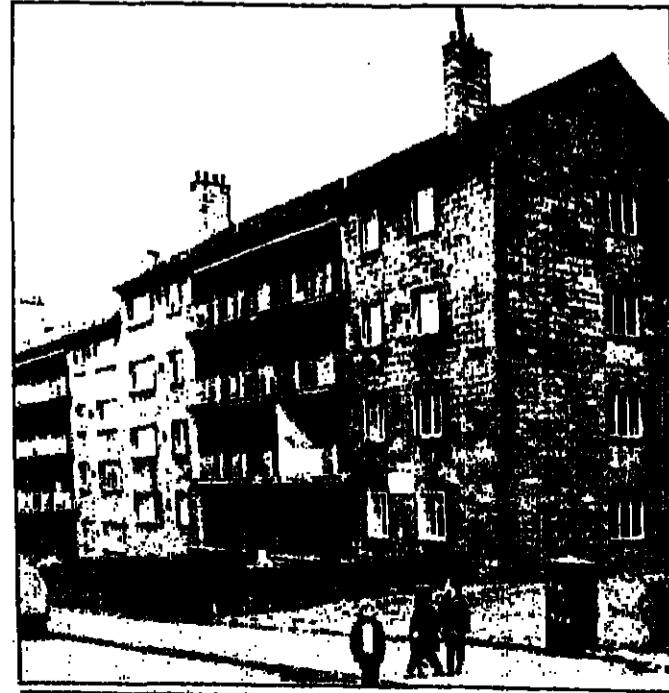
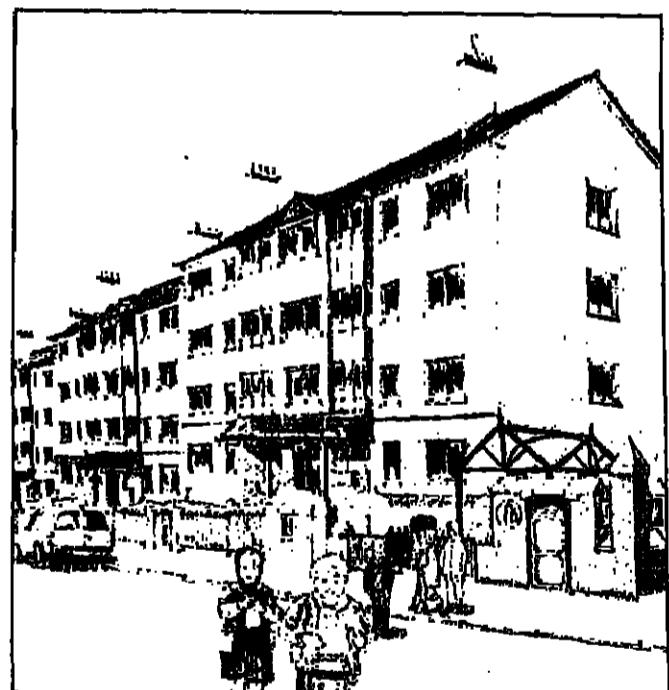
## Community Enterprise Awards



### Award: Calvay Cooperative, Barlanark, Glasgow. Calvay Co-operative Ltd

THE Calvay area of Barlanark is an isolated post-war housing estate with poor transport and community amenities and high unemployment and social deprivation.

In 1983 the local tenants formed a "street committee" to discuss the problems of their neighbourhood and act as a pressure group to improve their environment. The council approached the tenants and together it was decided to try and set up a community controlled co-operative (non equity sharing housing co-operative). The tenants subsequently appointed a Co-operative Steering Committee, who, with the support of the council, appointed consultants to undertake a feasibility study of the area, with a view to testing the viability of creating a co-operative.



**Award: Hoxton Street renewal project, London. The Hoxton Trust**  
FORMERLY a lively area, with a colourful street market and strong sense of neighbourhood, Hoxton Street in Hackney had progressively deteriorated during the 1970s as a result of falling population, high unemployment and loss of local trade to multiple stores.

In 1981 the Shoreditch Festival, a local group specialising in family entertainments in the area, became very concerned at the increasing dereliction of central Hoxton and its street market. Covent Garden Housing Project's architects prepared a scheme for the development of 150-176 Hoxton Street and obtained government funding for it. To ensure the development of this scheme, the Hoxton Trust was formed and registered as a company in 1982.

The quality and speed of the redevelopment has generated much private commercial investment in the centre, with market pitch bookings increasing and local traders spending money to improve their premises.

Tangible results of the trust's

Based on the ensuing feasibility report, funding was applied for through the Glasgow District Council to the Scottish Development Department.

Owing to the tenacity of the co-operative, following initial refusal of the package, tenants were finally offered funding through the Scottish Housing Corporation, eliminating Glasgow District Council altogether from the finances.

The co-operative involves a total of 366 flats comprising eight flats per close in four-storey tenement buildings. The construction costs, which cover environmental works, repair and some internal improvements, are estimated to be £5m.

This concept offers tenants the unique opportunity to have a large measure of control in their day to day living environment and effective management and maintenance of their own housing stock.

The assessors were most impressed by the close co-operation between the Glasgow district council, the Steering

work include:

- The transformation of a derelict site into a lush garden with terraced shrubberies, completed, with the installation of a salvaged clock tower as a local landmark, at a cost of only £41,000.
- The refurbishment of the buildings to provide two shops, five housing association flats, offices for the Shoreditch Festival and Hoxton Trust, and workshop and storage areas including a propagation unit.
- The re-establishment, as a feature of the market, of a pie and mash shop, refitted by a local businessman with traditional and expensive materials.
- The construction of a BMX bicycle track.
- The landscaping of local parks and the establishment of a gardening service for pensioners.

Looking to the future, the trust has acquired derelict land for a housing association development of sheltered flats, produced plans for new student accommodation. The trust is also fighting vigorously for the retention and development of historic poor house buildings in Hoxton Street, which the District Health Authority has provisionally decided to demolish.



### Award: Cardiff City Farm, Cardiff City Farm Trust

IN 1978 a group of local people living in a deprived urban area of Cardiff became interested in the possibility of reclaiming and developing wasteland sites. With the intention of initiating the first urban farm in Wales, they formed the Cardiff City Farm.

With the help of a local architect, a suitable site was found and plans and proposals drawn up. In April 1979, following planning consent and initial funding under the Urban Programme, work began to transform a four acre former refuse tip in Grangetown, Cardiff, into Wales' first urban

farm.

The aim of the farm is to revitalise and cultivate waste land to provide a wide range of amenities for the community. Including gardening, vegetable growing and animal husbandry. The City Farm enables all members of the community to develop first hand experience of rural activities in their own neighbourhood on a daily basis, as well as providing considerable educational, leisure and recreational facilities. Activities to date include a farmhouse (with goats, pigs, ducks and



hens) pottery workshop, a fish farm and community gardens growing a variety of flowers and vegetables.

The initial construction costs of approximately £52,000 have been met by the Urban Programme, with Manpower Services Commission funding for the labour costs and additional financial assistance from the local authority.

"Although the project is at an 'intermediate' stage, it is a very exciting place to be in and has enormous potential for the future.

Competently run by hard working idealists, and supported by local business, it makes an important contribution to the local community, largely through that community's own interest and involvement".



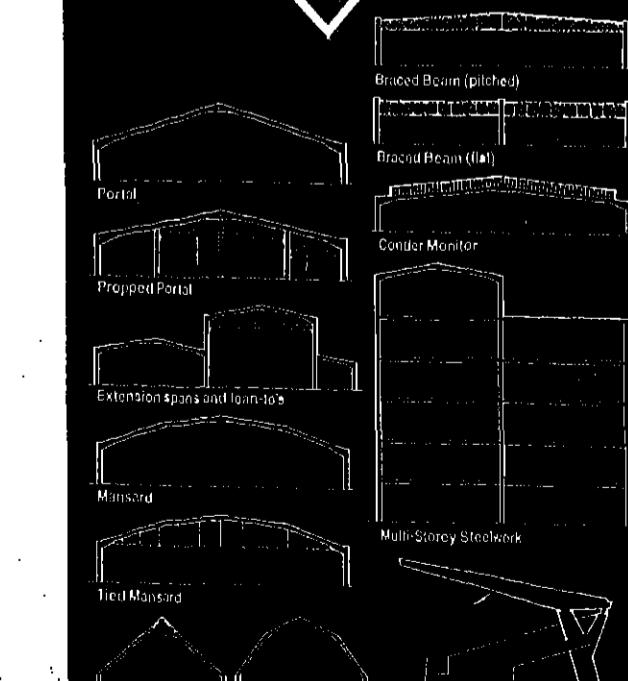
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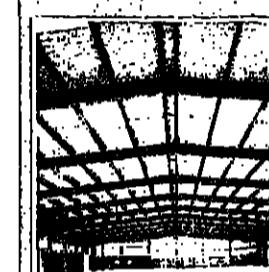
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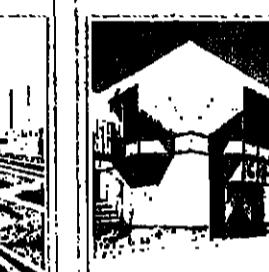
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**Award: Zenzele self-build housing for the unemployed, Fishponds, Bristol. Zenzele Self-Build Housing Association**  
IN 1982, at the initiative of local JP Stella Clarke and Project Full Employ worker, Tana Adebyi, a scheme was set up to enable young unemployed youths from the St Pauls area of Bristol to build their own flats on a self-build basis.

The primary objectives of the scheme were to give young untrained people an opportunity to develop work experience and useful skills, to provide improved housing for those living in either rented accommodation or crowded family houses and, most importantly, to engender a sense of optimism and motivation for the future.

A Bristol Committee of Advisers was formed to work with the self-build groups. Together they discussed all issues ranging from programming and fund raising to building design. Funding was ultimately obtained through the Housing Corporation on their



## Community Enterprise Awards

### Commendation: Hemsworth Water Park, West Yorkshire. Hemsworth Town Council

**FOLLOWING** local pressure, due to the loss of an existing water amenity area, Hemsworth Town Council initiated the Hemsworth Water Park project to provide water based and rural recreational facilities for a deprived urban area, previously dominated by the coal industry now with high unemployment.

The town council has parish council status and comprises 15 councillors. The only professional staff are one part time clerk and an assistant.

In 1983 the town council purchased a 10.9 ha piece of land from existing funds and, in consultation with various local community organisations,



voluntary groups and professional consultants, developed plans to create a country park based around two lakes with a clubhouse/community centre.

Phase I, including landscaping, a fishing lake and a nature area, was constructed for a total cost of approximately £92,500, with council funds topped up by a grant from the Countryside Commission.

### Commendation: Frinton & Walton Heritage Centre, Walton-on-the-Naze, Essex. The Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust

**SINCE** its foundation in 1984, the Frinton & Walton Heritage Trust, a registered charity affiliated to the Civic Trust, had recognised the need for a base and exhibition centre. The group consists mainly of retired people who want to use their skills and energies to improve their local environment and amenities.

The Heritage Trust identified the Old Lifesout House at Walton-on-the-Naze as a possible location for their activities, although it was at that time in a poor state of neglect and dilapidation. They negotiated a 21-year repaying lease at £5 per annum rent with



Tendring District Council and set about raising the money required. Early fund raising efforts brought in £4,000 which has subsequently been spent on cleaning and repairs.

The trust expects to be able to cover its running costs in the future from exhibitions, but is still seeking further funds to enable public access to the "Buildings" gallery level.



### Commendation: Vivat Ware, Hertfordshire. Vivat Ware Working Party.

**IN** the early 1970s the ancient town of Ware, situated by the River Lea in Hertfordshire, was suffering from progressive decline and economic depression owing to a whole range of environmental and planning problems. Recognising this, the urban district council (UDC) of Ware and the Hertfordshire County Council considered that a study should be undertaken to determine an enhancement programme for action.

In 1973 they appointed architects Rock Townsend to undertake a feasibility study of the town to identify its current problems and potential for future development and rejuvenation.

Vivat Ware, the report published in October 1974, gave a thorough analysis of the fabric of the town, in terms of economic, social and physical characteristics, and examined ways in which existing resources could be used to revitalise Ware. Although initially a basis for discussion, the report in fact became a vehicle for action by encouraging discussion between consultants, the council (now after local government re-organisation, the East Hertfordshire District Council) and local groups, and promoting the "enabling" of a programme of improvements for Ware.

An advisory committee, reconstituted as the Vivat Ware Working Party, comprising

### Commendation: The Burnley Mechanics, Lancashire. Burnley Borough Council

**ONE** of the finest examples of Classical architecture in the town, the Burnley Mechanics building, originally built as a literary and scientific institute, and now owned by Burnley Borough Council, was vacated by its former tenants in 1979.

The council immediately resolved to make the building, which had been a centre of education and craftsmanship in the 19th century, structurally sound and weatherproof. In 1982 the council took the lead in a further decision to refurbish the building, enabling it to be brought back into public use as an arts and entertainment centre with opportunities for training and employment. The work carried out to make the building structurally sound, together with the extensive refurbishment scheme, was funded mainly by the borough council but with the help of grants from the Historic Buildings Council, the Arts Council of Great Britain, the English Tourist Board and funds from the original Mechanics Trust. In addition, the Burnley & District Arts Council are



working with the borough council to launch an appeal for further funding.

The Burnley Mechanics will provide a range of arts and entertainment facilities including a 400-seat, fully equipped theatre on the first floor, which can be adapted for use as a dance or banqueting hall, changing rooms, two bars, a large ground floor circulation area, coffee shop and a nationally networked tourist information centre. It is intended that the lower ground floor of the property will be

### Commendation: Lea View House, Hackney, London. Lea View House Tenants Association

**LEA** View House, heralded as "Heaven in Hackney" when it first opened in 1939, had, by the 1960s, become a rundown hard-to-let estate hated by its tenants who had no choice but to live there.

Out of desperation, the tenants had forced their way onto the council's priority list. In autumn 1980 architects Hunt Thompson Associates were appointed by the London Borough of Hackney, with a brief to keep the tenants on the estate. From a project office set up in one of the empty flats on the estate, the architects conducted a thorough survey of the buildings and the tenants. By taking the tenants as the clients and reaching a proper understanding of their problems, the architects developed new ways of using the existing buildings so that every type of household need could be recognised, respected and catered for.

The conversion of the Burnley Mechanics to a multi-use arts and entertainment centre provides, in a recognised building of architectural interest, a platform for professional and amateur events covering a full range of cultural and social activities and establishes a base from which work can be extended into the community.



occupied by the Mid-Pennine Arts Association and converted for use as an arts gallery with practical workshops for arts training.

The first new homes were completed in June 1983 and the first half of the project (125 out of 228 new homes) is now complete. The £6.5 million rolling programme (funding from the London Borough of Hackney) will be finished by spring 1988. It is already evident that the tenants' lives have been transformed and there is a new

### Commendation: The Bedales Barnyard, Bedales School, Petersfield, Hampshire. Outdoor Work Department, Bedales School

**IN** 1980 the Outdoor Work Department of Bedales School was offered a disused 18th century barn from nearby Selbourne as a centre for the department's tree industry and local conservation work. The barn was dismantled, transported and reconstructed within the school grounds by the pupils themselves under adult supervision. Three years later a second barn from Alton was added, forming a barnyard.

The project was funded in part

by the Hampshire County council and local business sponsors, by the generosity of old Bedaleians and parents, and the fund-raising efforts of the pupils which accounted for about one third of the cost.

The Outdoor Work

Department concentrates chiefly on trees, both producing and selling them, and labouring in neighbouring woods and gardens for two thirds of professional costs, as well as working with local conservation

groups. It was revived in 1975 by the pupils, who wanted to "become more involved in the running of Bedales' estate and the economy of the community".

Together, the two barns will provide large covered work areas, carthouse, strongroom, stable and forge, toolhouse, lavatory and a kitchen with a baking oven.

**Commendation:** The Etherow Centre, Broadbottom, Cheshire. The Etherow Centre Trust.

**L**OCAL residents were concerned when a former British Rail warehouse, standing in the centre of the attractive stone-built village of Broadbottom, was allowed to deteriorate because of disuse. However, it appeared to offer possibilities for conversion to a community centre for the village.

In 1981 Broadbottom Community Association contacted architects Community Urban Regeneration who produced a scheme for converting the neglected warehouse into a riding school for the disabled on the ground floor, and a gymnasium and keep-fit facility on the upper floor. Following the receipt of a grant from the RIBA to conduct a structural survey and feasibility study, the association attempted to purchase the building. They were not successful however until 1985, when they effected purchase with a grant from Greater Manchester Council, and formed the Etherow Centre Trust. Work began on the project in November 1985 after the trust received an Urban Programme Grant from Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, and further funding from Greater Manchester Council, Zochonis Charitable Trust and the Sports Council, is still to be confirmed.

When Phase I is completed in summer 1986, the Etherow Centre will house an indoor arena for riding for the disabled plus a spacious first floor gymnasium for able-bodied and disabled gymnastics. Also included will be an exterior access ramp to the upper floor enabling any group to use the viewing area, meeting room and refreshment facilities. The building will bring together the able-bodied and the disabled in the pursuit of sport. Although the needs of the handicapped will always have priority public use is encouraged.

The assessors were impressed

"with the original concept of a new use for a redundant building... (and) the very

imaginative design by

Community Urban

Regeneration". Above all, they felt that "they had opened up a real community project for the handicapped people in a wide area and coupled this with facilities for local use".

## Community Enterprise Awards



The assessors commented: "The school's motto is 'Work of each for Weal of all' and... (we... were)... were enormously impressed that both pupils and staff were living up to it. There has been a genuine attempt at involving those outside the 'closed' community of the school... and this is likely to blossom once the building work is completed".

**Commendation:** The Etherow Centre, Broadbottom, Cheshire. The Etherow Centre Trust.

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TW12 PARTITIONING

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The offices created by SPI have been equipped with Castelli's Part and Summa office furniture systems showing how effectively these products work together.

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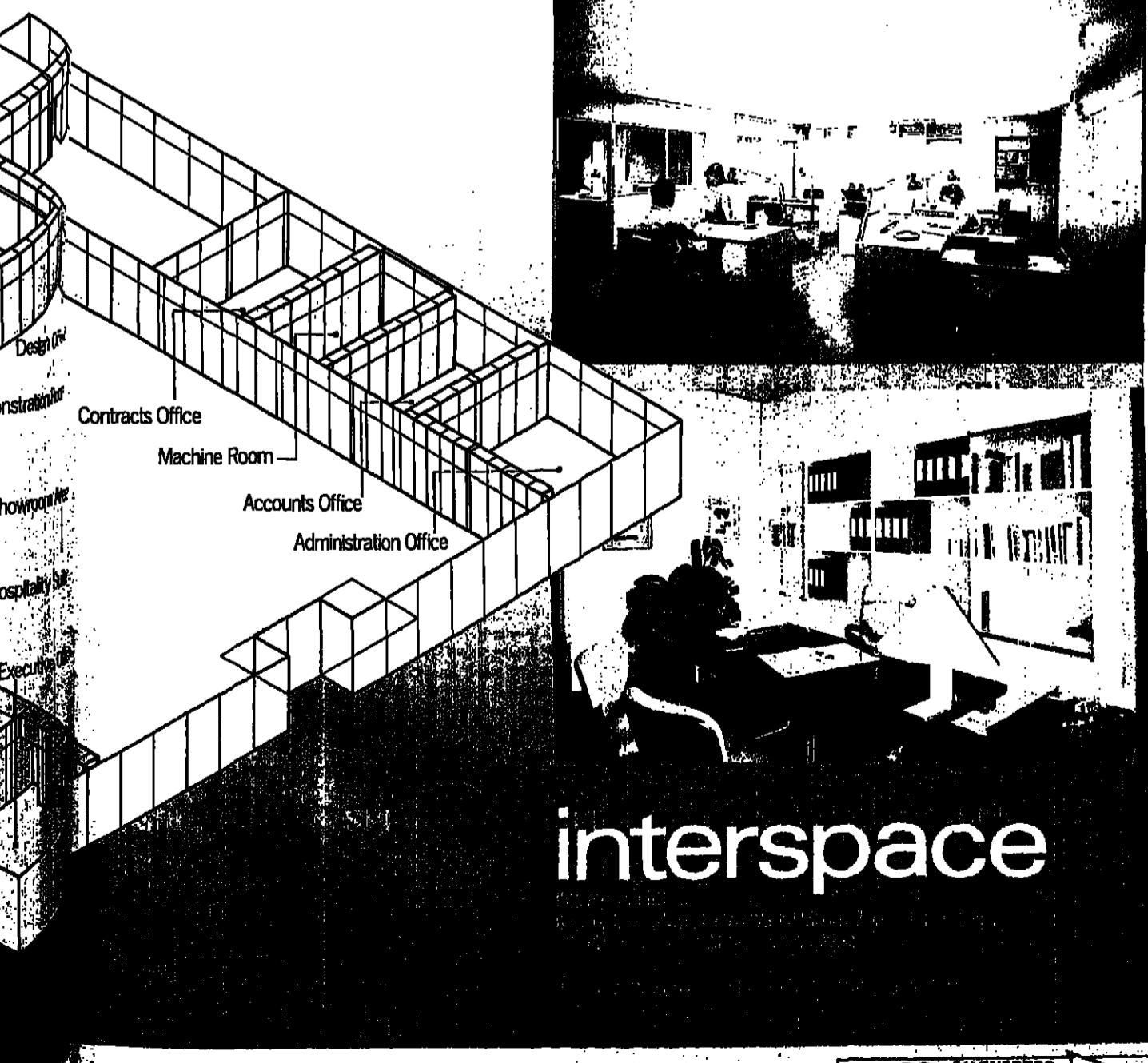
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# interspace

**Commendation:** Community Call In, Ashill, Thetford, Norfolk. Ashill Village Aid.

**C**OMMUNITY Call In was initiated by Ashill Village Aid (AVA), an active community support group formed in 1978 to provide services for the elderly people of Ashill, who account for a large majority of the village population.

The "Call In" concept developed following a village survey by AVA, which showed the need for a village meeting place that was accessible for elderly people with restricted mobility and close to the shops and post office.

The assessors commented: "a good example of community effort in a rural setting and worthy of a Commendation".

Following the receipt of an RIBA grant in 1982 a viable

scheme was produced for the conversion of an old disused agricultural storage building, in an ideal location by the village pond. Negotiations with the Manpower Services Commission secured free labour for the building work, and grants provided by various organisations, (including Help the Aged, Age Concern and Social Services), were supplemented by fundraising events organised by the AVA.

The Call In was opened in July 1985, to widespread support and considerable interest. It is hoped that the project will eventually be self supporting through charges for activities provided.

The assessors commented: "a good example of community effort in a rural setting and worthy of a Commendation".

Enter 36 ONEXPRESS ENQUIRY CARD

## Community Enterprise Awards

### Commendation: Breadline project, Penzance, Cornwall. Breadline

IN November 1982 the Penwith Youth Development Council carried out a survey among local young people, which confirmed the need for a meeting place for the young unemployed. It was intended that the centre should provide a much needed base from which the young people could get involved in constructive activities of benefit to both themselves and the community.

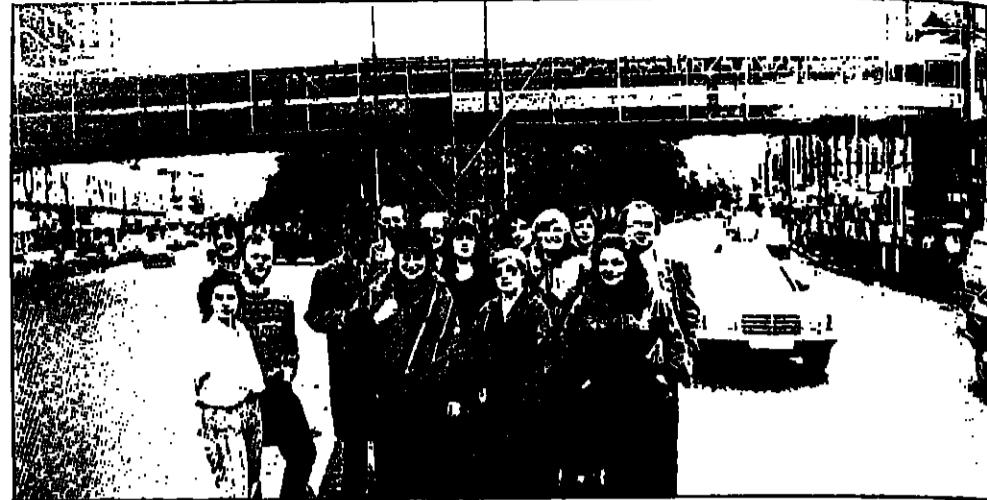
A sub-committee entitled the Penzance Youth Forum was formed and commenced fund raising to help put its plans into motion. In consultation with the district council, a redundant building was identified as a possible venue for Breadline. The district council agreed to lease the premises to the Breadline Committee on a 21-year lease at £10 per annum. Manpower Services Commission agreed to supply the labour to convert the building and a local architect Dilwyn Lloyd, carried out a feasibility study and



obtained planning consent for the project.

While funding came from various sources including the County Youth Service, churches, the Rotary Club, the Lions Club, and several charities and trusts, the bulk of the money was raised by the young people themselves through many enterprising fund raising events.

The redundant warehouse was converted at a cost of £20,000



### Commendation: Shepherd's Bush Pedestrian Bridge Recladding, London. Shepherd's Bush Improvement Group

THE centre opened its doors on October 1, 1985, and is now run by a voluntary management committee of young people assisted by a part-time youth worker. The Breadline continues to plan fundraising events to enable further work to be done on the building and more activities to be generated.

(materials only) to provide a meeting room, coffee bar, kitchen, office, workshop, project rooms and lavatories.

The centre opened its doors on October 1, 1985, and is now run by a voluntary management committee of young people assisted by a part-time youth worker. The Breadline continues to plan fundraising events to enable further work to be done on the building and more activities to be generated.

Fulham Borough Council, responsible for the operation, decided to consult the local community association, Shepherd's Bush Improvement Group (SBIG), about the proposed colours for the new cladding.

SBIG, made up of local residents, local businesses and other local organisations, immediately saw the opportunity to come up with a scheme for the recladding that would improve their environment and make the bridge something of a landmark.

The GLC, who were funding the recladding, gave their permission for SBIG to submit designs, and Hammersmith & Fulham council agreed to withdraw their submission.

Determined to involve the whole community, the SBIG organised a competition to redesign the covering on the bridge with a first prize of £100, and the possibility of seeing the realisation of the winning design. The competition was advertised in a SBIG bulletin and a local Shepherd's Bush newspaper, *The Gazette*. Prizes were donated by the *Gazette*, local residents and shopkeepers.

The competition was won by a retired park attendant who came up with a scheme to disguise the overhead bridge as a train—the pedestrians crossing becoming passengers to be seen through the open windows in the cladding, giving, in the words of the winner, "life, colour and movement" to the bridge. He suggested that the group should approach various transport organisations to raise sponsorship.

British Rail subsequently agreed to sponsor the bridge—which became an inter-city 125 train. They agreed to provide paint and other details for authenticity, to cover the costs of electricity to light the bridge and to maintain its exterior. The GLC met the material costs prior to its abolition and a residual body will meet the construction costs.

It is expected that the scheme, which was approved both by the local planners and the DoE, will be completed early this summer.

The assessors commented: "The energy and ingenuity of local people in taking over this project from the local authority, and making it work, greatly impressed us... everyone was involved; local residents and shopkeepers, the local newspaper, local authorities and commercial sponsors".

### Commendation: Avalon Corner Housing Co-operative Ltd, Glasgow

SINCE the 1960s the Avalon block, a 19th century tenement building in the centre of Glasgow, had been in desperate need of modernisation and repair. By the early 1980s, the tenants of the Avalon block, faced with the prospect of their building being demolished and the ensuing break-up of their community, joined together to form an action group to save their homes and make them a decent place in which to live.

The group decided to investigate the possibility of becoming a Par Value Co-operative, and contacted other housing co-operatives for advice and guidance. They approached the Glasgow District Council who agreed to commission a feasibility study to assess the economic viability of rehabilitating the block. The ensuing exercise demonstrated that in financial terms the property was worth saving.

On the strength of the feasibility study, the Housing Corporation accepted the co-op's registration and granted approval to the project in principle. The Avalon Corner Housing Co-operative appointed The new Housing Association to provide development, financial and general administrative services to the co-op and the district council made a

promotional grant of £5,000 to get the project underway. Assisted by architects, surveyors and engineers, the co-operative carried out a new survey of essential repairs, and visits were made to other tenement rehabilitation schemes to help make decisions on design and specification issues.

In October 1985 tenants of the Avalon block moved out of their homes to temporary accommodation borrowed from the district council and other housing agencies, to enable work to commence on site.

On completion there will be 27 flats and two shops refurbished at a cost of £240,000. The project will be managed co-operatively, possibly with one part-time member looking after housing management, and members of the co-op trade skills joining a maintenance squad to carry out most of the simpler tasks.

The assessors were impressed by "the strong sense of a community re-establishing itself firmly in the area it wanted to be in".

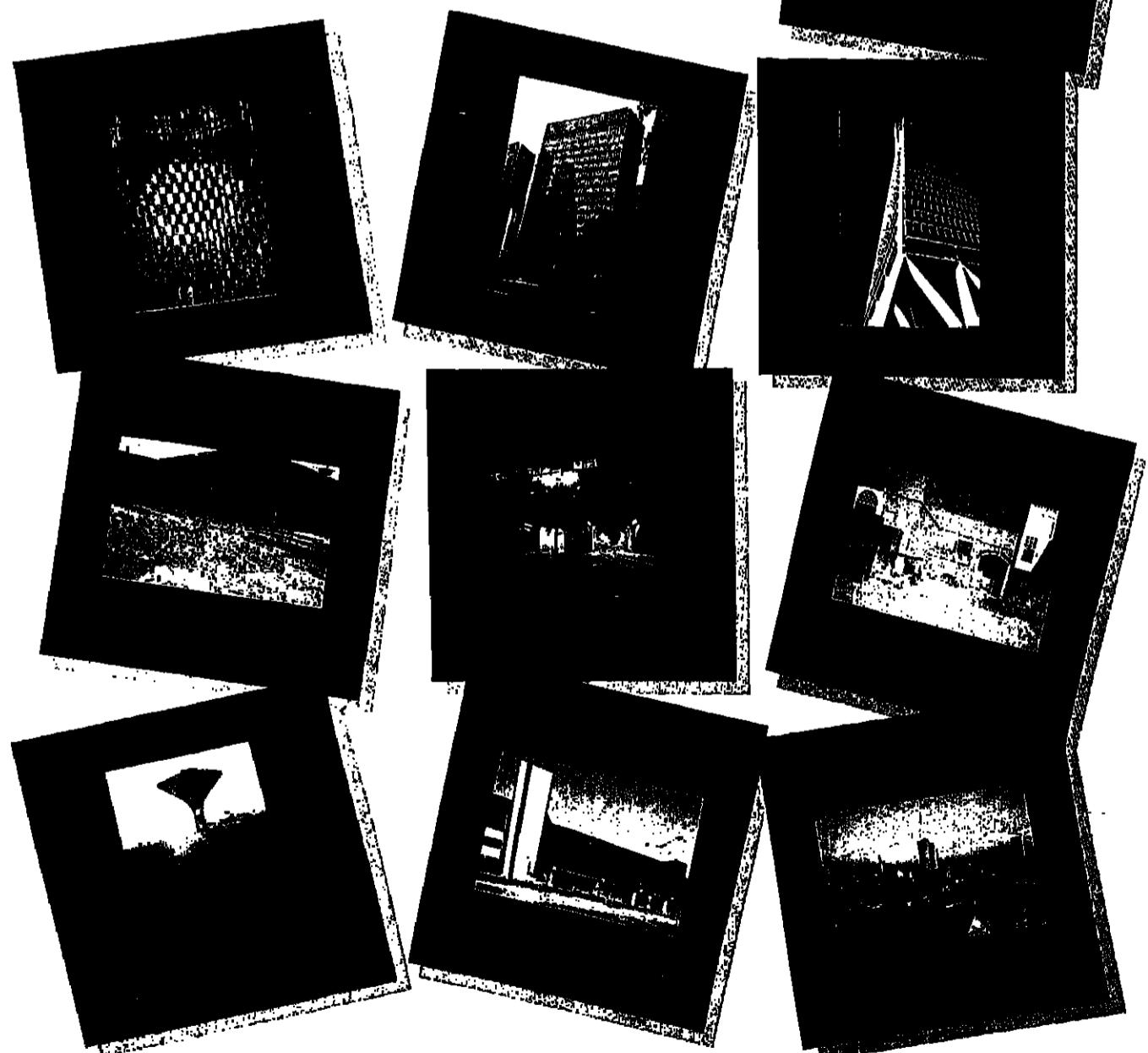
The housing was seen to be generating, "a potent source of energy for urban renewal that went beyond the provision of housing for the tenants". A picture of this project will be published when available.

### Honourable mentions

Spital Community Hall, Rutherglen, Glasgow.  
The Acorn Venture Urban Farm Community Garden, Kirby, Merseyside.  
Queen Street Mill Project, Burnley, Lancs.  
Shorefields Village, Toxteth, Liverpool.  
Proposed Workshop Units, Cowley, Oxon.

Colin Street Development, London.  
Let's Build Limehouse Together, Limehouse Basin, London.  
The Eldonian Housing Co-operative Village/Vaults, Nature Gardens, The Eldonian Housing Co-operative and the Eldonian Community Organisation.

## What do these have in common?



For further information, contact us.

### THIOKOL CHEMICALS

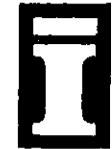
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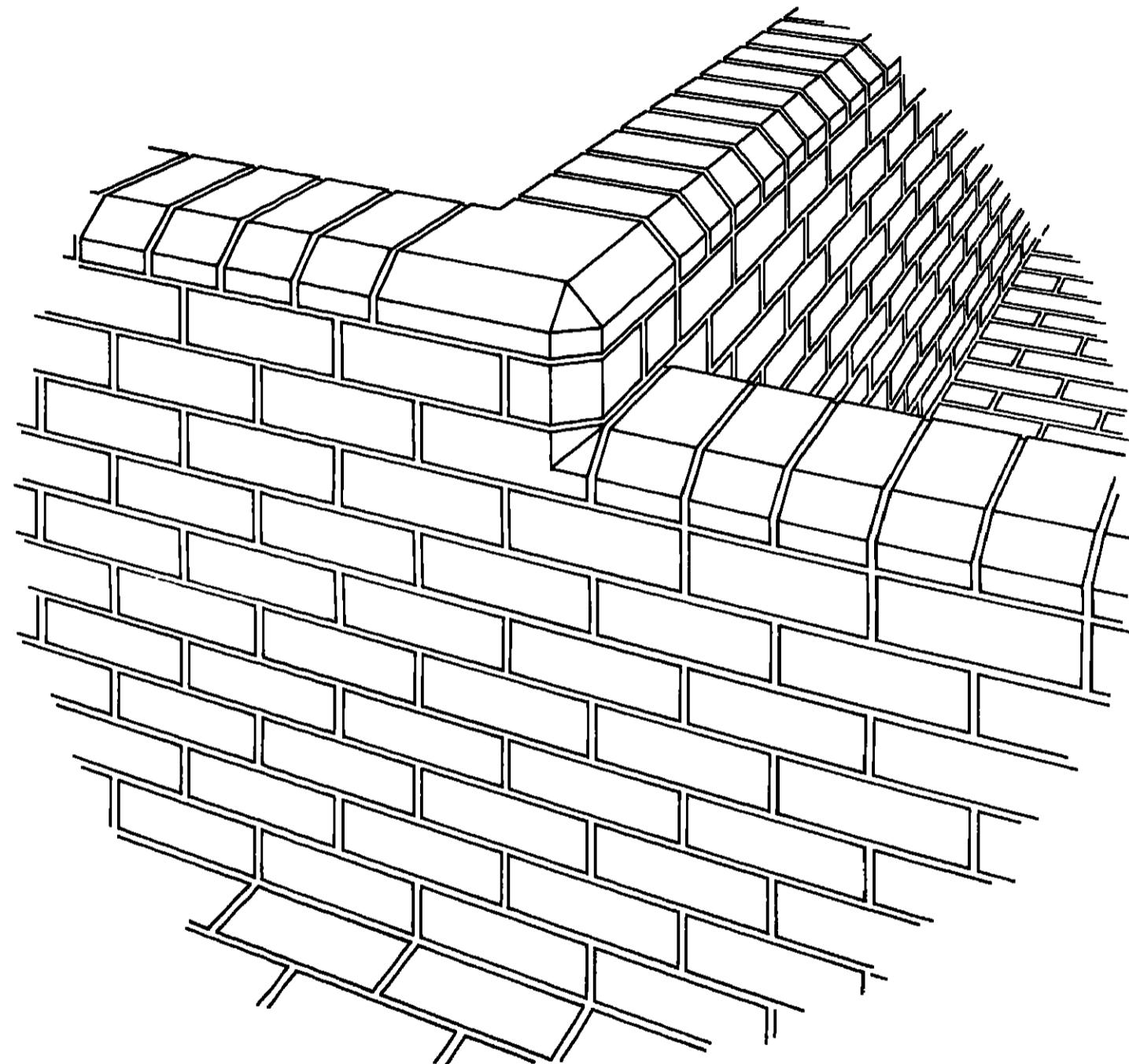
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One in a series: External works

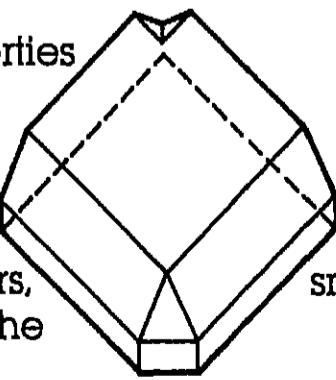


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When Commercial Union Properties in Swindon developed two neighbouring offices neither building was to have conventional ninety degree corners.

The detail above is from planters, the canted copings echo precisely the



main building in phase one. It's just one example of how Ibstock are helping architects make the most of brickwork. For specialist advice on brickwork problems, large or small, your nearest Ibstock Brickwork Design Centre is at your service.

Architect: Alec French Partnership, Bristol.

## IBSTOCK

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## Retrospective

# UNDER THE SHADOW OF CORB

Judi Loach reviews the first exhibition to assess Amédée Ozenfant.

Detail from "Glasses and bottles", 1922-26.

THE first retrospective of Amédée Ozenfant is presently touring France. This painter obviously has a special interest for architects because of his close association with Corbusier, but it is perhaps precisely for this reason that we have not considered him seriously in his own right; indeed the catalogue compiled to ac-

company this exhibition (originally written as an MA thesis) contains the first attempt to detail his entire oeuvre. The exhibition therefore offers an important opportunity to reassess Ozenfant's status since it brings together an unprecedented array of his works, and in particular because it includes many early works

which have rarely been exhibited in any major art galleries.

The exhibition was initiated by the Musée Antoine Lécuyer in St Quentin, a municipal art gallery, which should be congratulated for having the courage to undertake such an ambitious project — including arrangements for the exhibition's subsequent tour — when more prestigious institutions had neglected to mount an Ozenfant retrospective. This has added to significance of the exhibition in that it was prepared, and first shown, in the very town where Ozenfant was born and grew up. Today St Quentin is a typical medium-sized town in northern France, but in the late 19th century (Ozenfant was born in 1886) the surrounding region, between Paris and the Channel ports, was one of the most advanced industrially in the whole country, a place where progress and technology were bywords. The painter's father was a builder, interested in exploiting the latest materials and techniques, notably reinforced concrete. Ozenfant was mad about cars, attending virtually every grand prix meeting in France and, together with his brother Jean, he designed the chassis for his own sports car in 1910-11.

His artistic studies began with the drawing classes of the local art school, named after Delatour, the most famous artist raised in St Quentin by that date. Ozenfant must have become very familiar with Quentin Delatour's own work, since these delicately toned pastels from the late 18th century comprise the major feature in the local art museum. Seeing them alongside Ozenfant's own works one cannot help but speculate that they influenced his palette, and encouraged him to explore the subtleties of tone exemplified by the earlier portraitist. Overall the exhibition surprises one by the amazing quality of Ozenfant's technique.

In 1905 Ozenfant began to take courses in decorative art at Paris, but did not leave St Quentin, nor the drawing classes at the art school there. The following summer he made the crucial break with his home town and did not go to Paris but to Holland, to an artist's colony at Laren (near Amsterdam), in which he stayed until the end of the year. Since this offered him his first opportunity to spend considerable time visiting art galleries of international standing it is perhaps the Dutch rather than the French collections which were his greatest influence during his formative stage.

Sometime in 1907, however, he moved to Paris, where for a while he complied with his father's wishes by studying architecture as well as painting. But he soon gave up architecture and changed art school. He was moving in artistic circles dominated by unadventurous but fairly successful painters, and was encouraged to exhibit in the conservative Société Nationale

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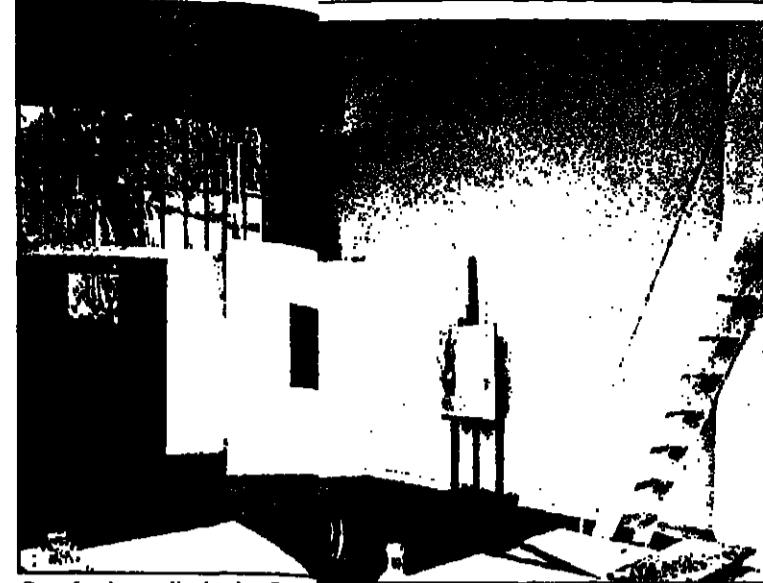
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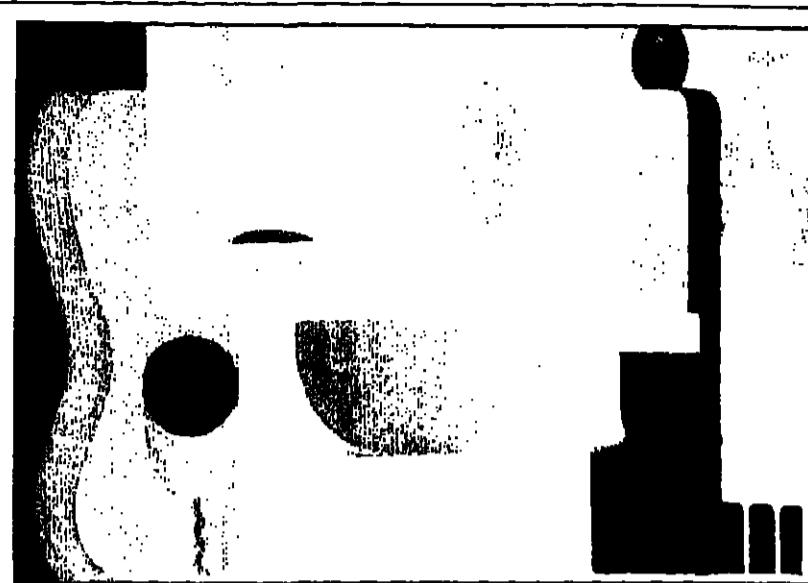
## LINTELS TO LIBERATE YOUR DESIGNS



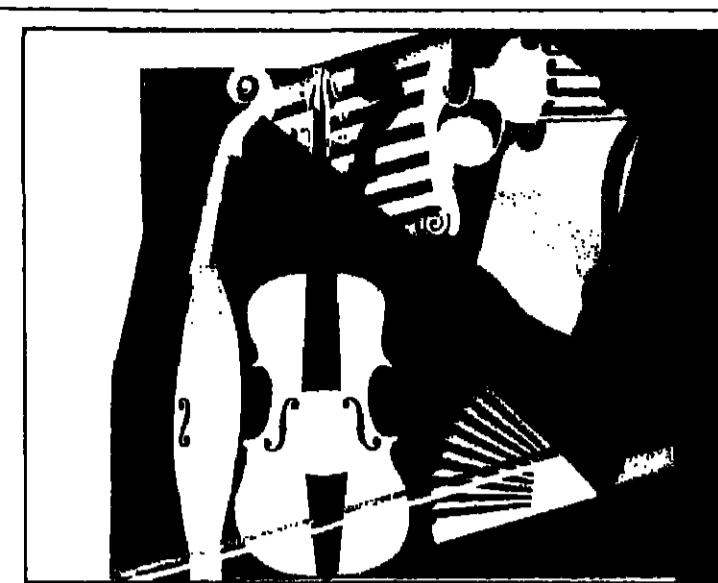
Better by design



Ozenfant's studio by Le Corbusier



Still life with glass of red wine, 1921.

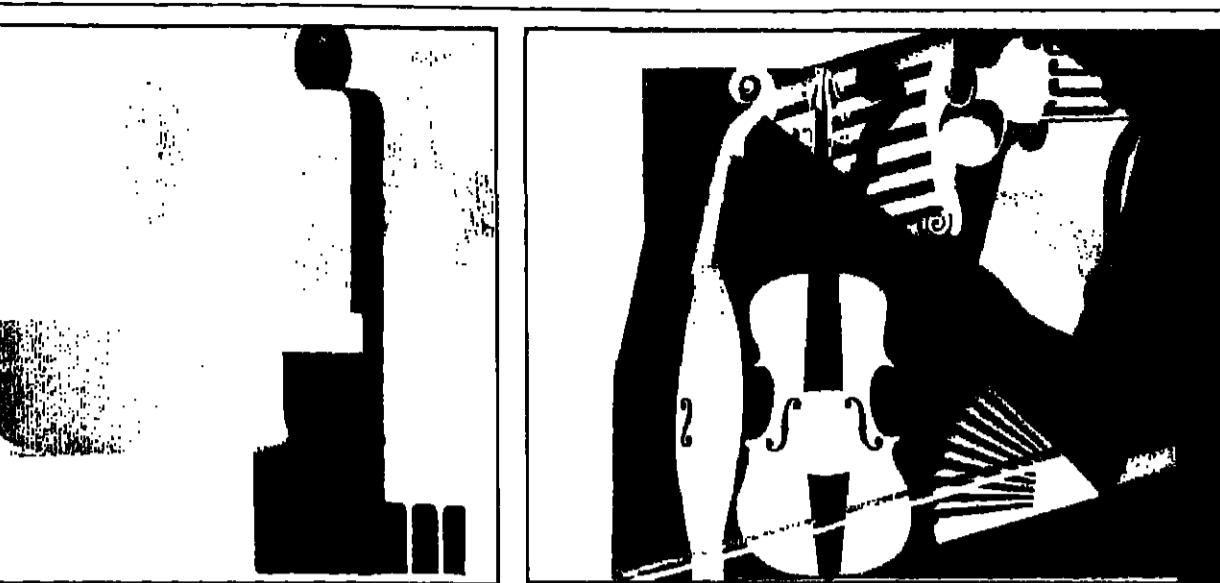


Yellow violin, or Still life with violin, 1919.

with Corbusier and his rejection of industrial society. But it is perhaps merely coincidental that this is the period of his partnership with Corbusier.

Perhaps the time is right to reassess Ozenfant, because the current state of architectural criticism, at last, allows us to see that his contemporaries may have been afraid to listen to the challenge to Modernism raised by one of its most intelligent and literate proponents.

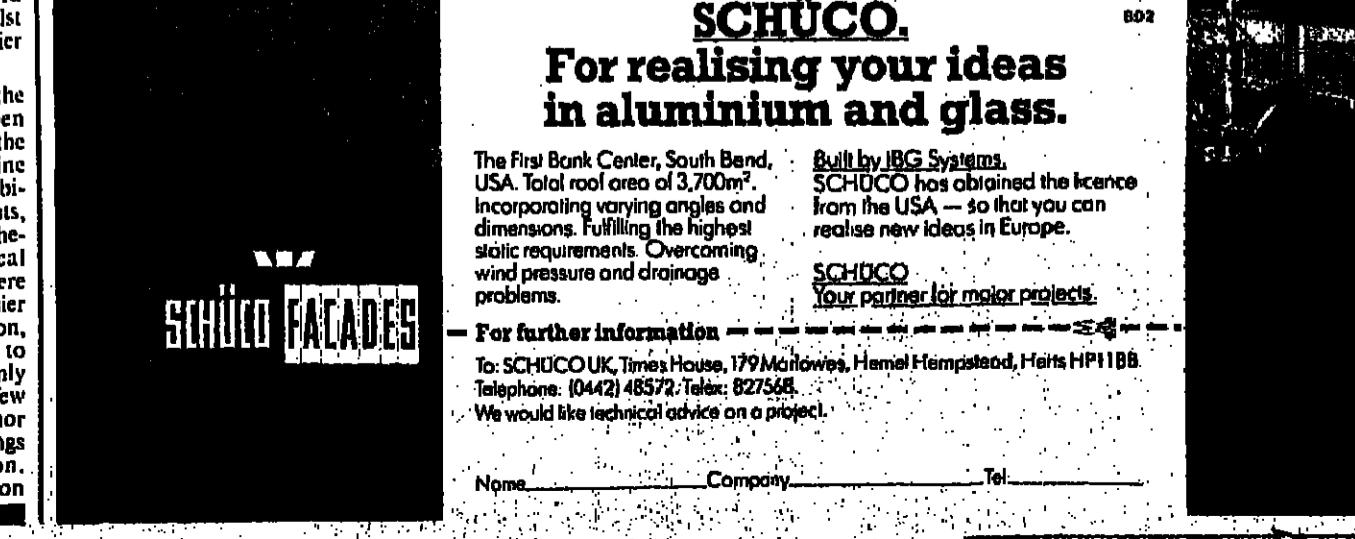
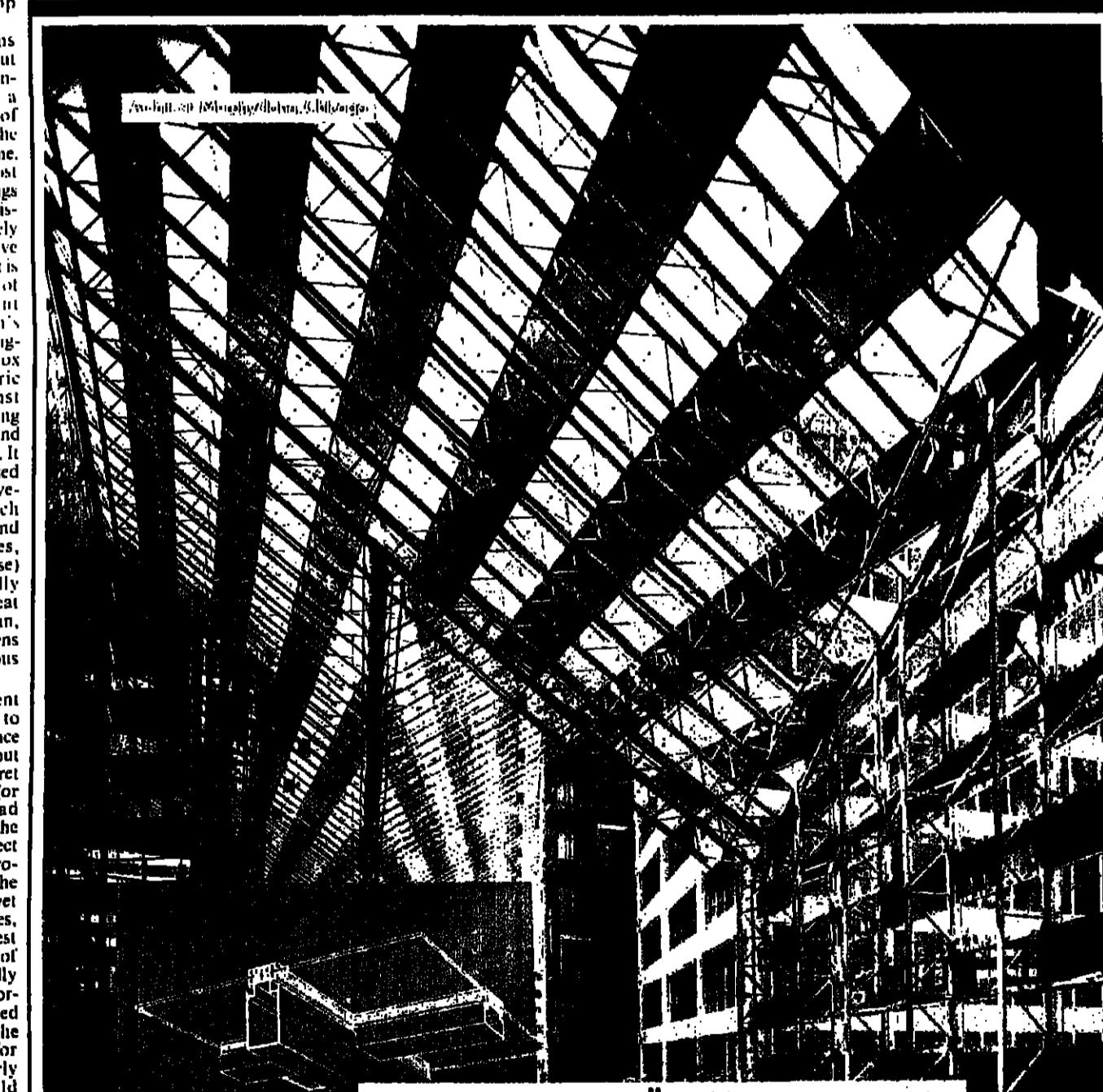
## Retrospective



would make collaboration with Corbusier no longer possible.

From 1925 Ozenfant, the founder of Purism, began to challenge the dogma into which it had evolved. His painting "Woman and Fountain" (painted in 1925-27) broke with the tenets of such a narrowly defined aesthetic by reintroducing the human figure. Moreover it did so in such a way as to simultaneously repudiate several other tenets of the movement, for it referred to a narrative subject Poussin's "Elysée and Rebecca" at the "Well" (which had been the subject of formal analysis in *L'Esprit Nouveau* in 1921) — and it thus referred to pre-industrial society. At this point he deliberately turned away from the mainstream of art — to the cost of his own painting.

Undoubtedly his finest paintings were produced in the years 1918-25, between his meeting



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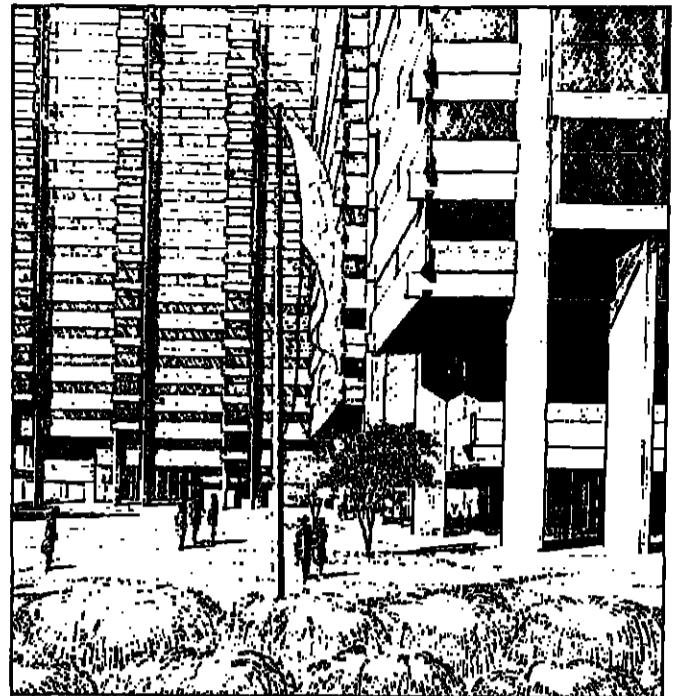
## Eastern promise

1965

The inaugural meeting of the SAAT was held at the RIBA. In which month, and who was RIBA president at the time?

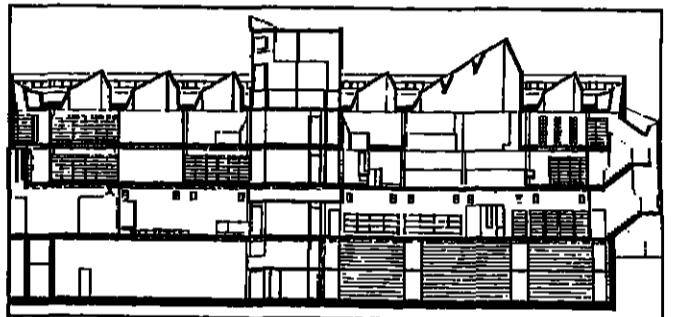
1966

Who designed this project (below) for the Brookhollow Plaza in Dallas?



1967

Who designed this competition winning library (below) in Dublin, completed in 1967?

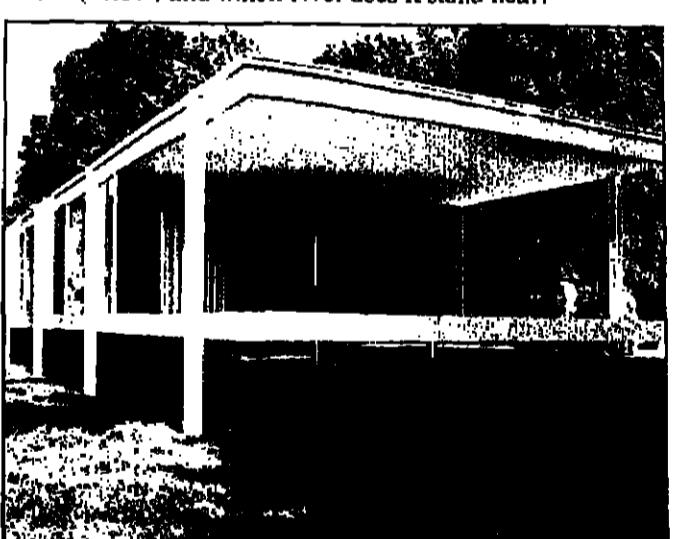


1968

The *New Science of Strong Materials* was published by Penguin. Who was its author?

1969

Mies van der Rohe died in Chicago. Who now owns this Mies house (below) and which river does it stand near?



1970

Who designed the British pavilion (above) at Expo 70?

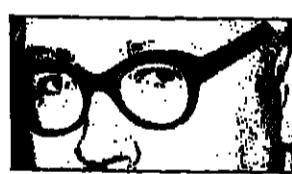


# ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS AND WIN A TRIP TO HONG KONG

1971

1971

This British Chancery designed by Sir Basil Spence was opened in September. Where?



1972

He was former chairman of Holland, Hannen & Cubitt, and Cubitt Construction Systems and former deputy chairman of electrical and mechanical engineers Drake & Gornam, Scull Ltd. Who is he and what did he become in 1972?



1973

Opened on March 16 and built by Mowlem, it followed those built by Romans, Normans and Georgians. What was it?



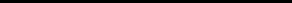
1974

Designed for 11,288 people it opened that year (above). What is it and who designed it?



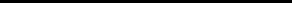
1975

Who became PSA director general of design services on a salary of £14,000 per annum?



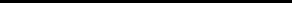
1976

Buckminster Fuller designed a geodesic dome at Expo 67. What happened to it in May 1976?



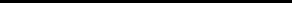
1977

How many certificates had the Agrément Board issued by the summer of 1977 when it moved into new offices at the BRE in Garston, 200, 300, 400, 500 or 600?



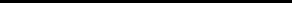
1978

A set of four stamps issued in February commemorated the 900th anniversary of which building?



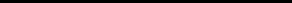
1979

Which decade came under scrutiny at the Hayward Gallery?



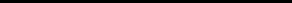
1980

Elton Keynes' chief executive resigned in August. Who was he?



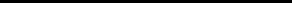
1981

Who became the third recipient of the Pritzker Prize?



1982

This design won the competition for one site in this photograph, and what happened to the design for the site diagonally opposite in 1985?



## Eastern promise

1965

The Society of Architectural & Associated Technicians (formerly SAAT) is celebrating its 21st anniversary this year. 1986 has also seen a change of title to The British Institute of Architectural Technicians—a positive step to reflect the evolution of an ebullient professional commitment to members, the industry and its consumers, writes chief executive Graham Watts.

1966

The Institute has arranged a number of special events in order to celebrate both the majority of SAAT and its rebirth as BIAT.

1967

On 11th July an inaugural reception for BIAT will be held at Scott Howards Associates in London, at which the guest of honour, Owen Luder, will present the Institute's third National Student Awards to winners Glasgow College of Building & Printing, and joint runners-up Napier College (Edinburgh) and Sheffield City Polytechnic. Seven other regional award winners will also be honoured.

1968

Later in the year, a practice conference will be held in London on 20th September to launch BIAT's new group indemnity insurance scheme; a joint conference is to be held with TRADA on 10th October; and another with the RIBA as part of the "Decaying Britain" campaign in Harrogate on 29th November, at which the guest of honour will be RIBA president Larry Rolland.

1969

In recent years, the international reputation of the Institute has steadily increased, and through

1970

SAAT's constant commitment to the development of education and training facilities in many countries, membership is now a qualification which is recognised worldwide.

1971

The first overseas centre of SAAT/BIAT was created in Hong Kong, and as part of our celebrations in 1986/7, the institute is holding a study tour to Hong Kong. The tour is open to anyone practising in the building industry, and a comprehensive itinerary of visits, discussions and social events is being planned.

1972

The study tour is being run by the group travel specialists, Peregrine Associates, on behalf of BIAT, and the cost compares very favourably with any package deals which are generally available.

1973

The inclusive cost per person, based on sharing a twin-bedded room, is £739\* with a single room supplement of £14 per night.

1974

So, if you want to escape from the British winter for a holiday with a construction flavour in the oriental summer, contact BIAT, 397 City Road, London EC1V 1NE, tel 01-278 2206.

1975

Alternatively, as part of our celebrations in 1986 BIAT is offering a free place on the study tour as part of a competition (on this page) in association with *Building Design*.

1976

\* This price is based on taxes and rates quoted for these specific dates and on an exchange rate current at 10th May 1986, and is subject to alteration in the event of change.

BIAT



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The British Institute of Architectural Technicians (formerly SAAT) is celebrating its 21st anniversary this year. This "anniversary quiz", organised in association with *Building Design*, asks questions about an event in each year of the Institute's life. The rules are set out below, and (right) there are details about the Institute's special events in its anniversary year.

## Rules and conditions

1. Any reader of *Building Design* is eligible to enter the quiz, except employees of *Building Design* and the British Institute of Architectural Technicians, and their relatives.

2. Closing date for entries is noon, July 14. They must be sent to Graham Watts, BIAT, 397 City Road, London EC1V 1NE, and marked "Quiz".

3. The entry which has the most correct answers will be the winner.

4. In the event of a tie, a second round of questions will be held. Details will be announced if this is necessary.

5. The adjudicators in the event of any dispute will be Graham Watts of BIAT and Paul Finch, editor, *Building Design*. Their decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

6. The winner will receive a free place on BIAT's 14-day study tour to Hong Kong, taking place in January next year (more details on this page).

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SAAT's constant commitment to the development of education and training facilities in many countries, membership is now a qualification which is recognised worldwide.

The first overseas centre of SAAT/BIAT was created in Hong Kong, and as part of our celebrations in 1986/7, the institute is holding a study tour to Hong Kong. The tour is open to anyone practising in the building industry, and a comprehensive itinerary of visits, discussions and social events is being planned.

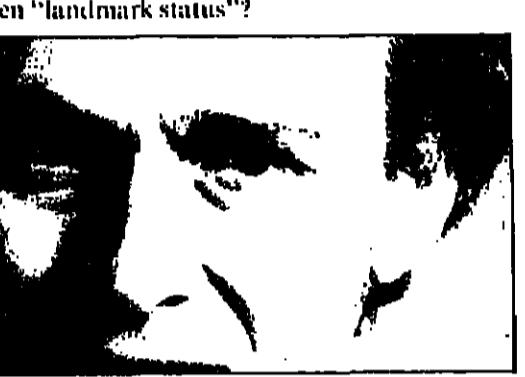
The study tour is being run by the group travel specialists, Peregrine Associates, on behalf of BIAT, and the cost compares very favourably with any package deals which are generally available.

The inclusive cost per person, based on sharing a twin-bedded room, is £739\* with a single room supplement of £14 per night.

So, if you want to escape from the British winter for a holiday with a construction flavour in the oriental summer, contact BIAT, 397 City Road, London EC1V 1NE, tel 01-278 2206.

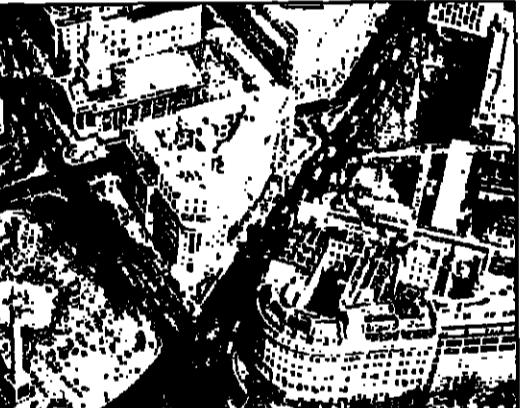
Alternatively, as part of our celebrations in 1986 BIAT is offering a free place on the study tour as part of a competition (on this page) in association with *Building Design*.

This picture (above) was taken in 1970. What does he do now, and which architect is he related to?



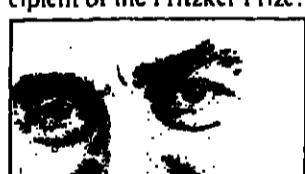
1986

This picture (above) was taken in 1970. What does he do now, and which architect is he related to?



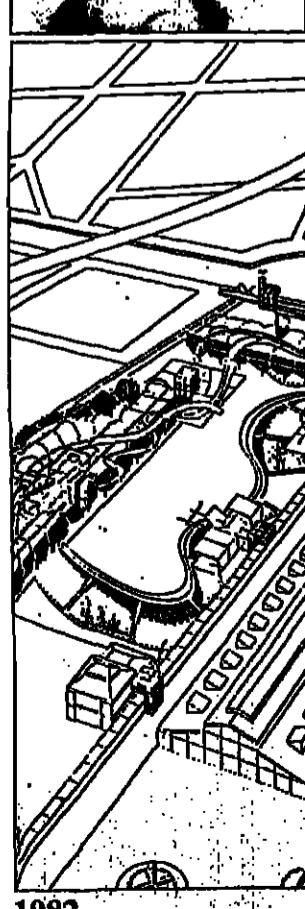
1981

Who became the third recipient of the Pritzker Prize?



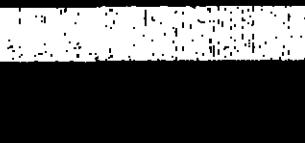
1982

How many entries were received in the competition for one site in this photograph, and what happened to the design for the site diagonally opposite in 1985?



1983

This design won the competition for one site in this photograph, and what happened to the design for the site diagonally opposite in 1985?



This design won the competition for one site in this photograph, and what happened to the design for the site diagonally opposite in 1985?



## Exhibitions



# MAGIC MIES

Robert Harbison reviews the Mies van der Rohe Centennial Exhibition.

THE large Mies van der Rohe Centennial Exhibition which closed last month at the Museum of Modern Art in New York has now opened in Chicago.

It was billed as the biggest ever staged, and was particularly notable for the large number of drawings, photomontages (a technique which some think Mies was the first architect to exploit), and models, particularly of unbuilt and destroyed projects.

Like many great artists, he appears to leave his roots far behind in a series of quantum leaps not obviously linked to his

own past productions. But the first projects shown had an electrifying effect, and one felt one had gotten to the bottom of Mies, who never entirely left behind the Classicism with a totalitarian flavour which was part of his teacher Behrens' legacy. The first projects in the exhibition were the Kröller-Müller house/museum in a desolate part of Holland, and an unscaleable monument to Bismarck high above the Rhine.

The first was wonderfully actualised in wood and canvas at full scale, and the model apparently ran on railroad tracks so its position could be adjusted slightly. The detailing is sum-

marian-primitive, but the silhouette is incredibly low, as of a building half-buried, sepulchral.

The Bismarck memorial is one of several obsessive meditations on death and silence which bore more dynamic offspring 14 years later in the Liebknecht/Rosenberg memorial, which the organiser, Arthur Drexler, sees as a rendition of oppression like a wall the proletariat is crushed against. I've always seen as quite the opposite, a dramatisation of social peace coming energetically unstuck.

Particularly telling were studies showing it inscribed with threats of revolution ("I was, I



Illinois Institute of Technology.

am, I will be again"), or (in photomontage) used as a speaker's podium like Lenin's tomb, for rowdy addresses to quasi-uniformed crowds.

One of its ancestors is a fascinating project of 1922 for a brick villa which looks in plan exactly like a Mondrian. Drexler's words about low walls treated like lines extending to infinity, or functioning like hedges at Versailles, are clairvoyantly apt.

I think it was here I noted for the first time how magical are Mies' quick interior perspective sketches, suggesting interstellar vastnesses by the way a few flimsy partitions in the middle

distince are skewed. For all its misleading economy of means it is one of the most exorbitantly utopian visions of space ever propounded.

The Friederichstrasse skyscraper projects of 1921-22 are, I suppose, the other apogee of Mies' pendulum. The best known views obscure the expressionist whimsy which is the main quality evident in the plans. The first, crystalline, triangular block reaches the street in 11 places and would cause pedestrians to step off the pavement into it at each of those points. The second is like an amoeboid meltdown of the triangular shape.

Before long the structural novelties of these proposals were being incorporated in larger conglomerates of crushing regularity. The replanning of Alexanderplatz with a troop of identical glass solids like a set of encyclopedias sends a shiver of horror even at this late date through this viewer. When I came out of the exhibition I entered just such a field of heartless force walking down Sixth Avenue.

The Mies I prefer to remember is the creator of calm pavilions which justify them-

The exhibition is at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago until August 10.

## That vital spark

By John McKean

*James Stirling: buildings and projects*, edited by Peter Arnell and Ted Bickford. Introduction by Colin Rowe. (The Architectural Press.)

IT is a truth universally acknowledged, if unhappily by some, that of all creative people, architects have the least wit.

An architect may need many qualities not called for in easier lives — a sparkling social conscience, persuasive powers to draw cash from stones, amazing technical dexterity, clarity of vision among complex and competing forces ... Who dares ask for more?

But just then, while Krier and JS were so carefully assembling that first volume, folding Leu's perspectives gently into early axed projects, knowingly sticking in cards to Jencks and uncaptioned drawings from Corbu, the first intimation of une architecture autre was stirring in the office. When Stirling showed the Düsseldorf and Cologne projects in a back room at the AA in March 76, these new ideas were finally seen in public.

James Stirling breathes this rare air with ease. And it is rare to think of any architect so assured today; any other who, not content with good work among the foothills, does not then become light-headed on the higher slopes.

Stirling is perhaps a better architect than we deserve — and how much less fit, fat and fun would be aroused if the forms, which in axonometric image he so easily embeds in our memories, did not leak, boil, rattle or roll when once they were built.

It would be difficult to defend the argument that Stirling is not the best architect we have today.

Volume One of the *oeuvres complètes*, identical in format to those of Le Corbusier, was published 10 years ago. And now I expected Volume Two. But, of course, it is not; for the only thing you are always guaranteed with Stirling is the unexpected. The new monograph, large, glossy and colourful, is coffee-table rather than Corbu-elongated in shape. While its title page neatly illustrates the project with which the earlier book closed (the crucial, unbuilt St Andrews Arts Centre) in no sense does this just follow on from *James Stirling: buildings and projects 1950-1974*.

Playing all these earlier tunes again, if at times in a slightly different key, takes us half-way through the new book. And only in the second half does it, essentially, add the work of the last decade. Much of this review so far, therefore, has also been a

play of one I published exactly a decade ago now. And I still mean it, though it sounds much less outspoken in early 86 than it seemed in early 76 — when Stirling's office was almost at a standstill, moans all round were complaining about the university buildings — wet at St Andrews, sweat at Cambridge, and all manner of things at Oxford. It was in the lull which followed the lost competitions at Derby and for Siemens, when Krier had been persuading JS to appreciate new tones; and the tiny contextualist St Andrews Arts Centre and huge Olivetti HQ in Milton Keynes, both abandoned by 1971, were leaving only the vivid and angry Runcorn housing stretching out as a future.

But with no more, the best result must still lack that vital spark.

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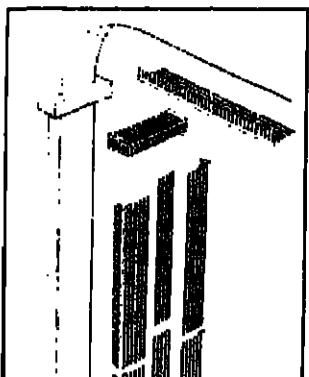
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## New products

### Arched openings

EXPANDING its range of arch-forming devices, The Expanded Metal Company has introduced a new arch strainer in fibrous plaster and a fibrous plaster pilaster unit which confines the arch-line to the floor. Expanded arch formers are now widely used on large and small contracts alike as a quick and easy way of creating arched openings. Formers come in splayed, elliptical and semi-circle styles, and the new additions complete the components needed to form the entire opening.



### Trunking

CONSISTING of just two parts — a screw-on base and a snap-on cover — the new Mini-Trunking from Thorsman comes in four versions, either open or segregated for multi-cell use. The smallest size is 20mm x 10mm, the largest 35mm x 17mm. The former is available either open or segregated, the latter segregated only. An intermediate size, 20mm x 17mm, is only available in the open format. High quality PVC is used throughout for the trunking's manufacture.



### Waterproofer

REQUIRING no primer, UniBond Liquid Rubber S is a high technology waterproof and rustproof coating which can be used to seal roofs, joints, metal flashings, gutters etc. It is solvent-based and will resist penetration by air, water and acid chemicals. What is more, Liquid Rubber S needs no primer when used on all substrates except cement and brickwork, when the surface should be washed down with UniBond Patio Cleaner.



### Artificial trees

LIFE-LIKE to the point where the real can hardly be distinguished from the unreal, Select Floral Services' artificial trees are made up of real trunks and silk leaves. In any height from 1.2m to 10m, Select Floral Services' trees are maintenance free and are available in various species — silver birch, ficus, maple, capensis and oak. A fireproofing service to ensure that its trees do not present a fire risk is also available.



### Chairs

SAID to be a natural blend of modern and traditional design, the Shape range of chairs, conceived by Peter Murdoch and available from Hille International, is suitable for use in offices, conference rooms, restaurants and hotels. Options include open and closed arm versions of both chairs and double-seater settees. They have moulded shells, upholstered with contoured cushioning and fabric or leather covering. The natural wood frame is in ash or lacquered finish.



### Conservatories

LUXURY conservatories, styled along Victorian lines, have been introduced by Banbury Homes' Gardens. Available in both standard and tailor-made options, this new line can serve equally as a freestanding building or as extension. There is a choice of window designs and below-wide panels, and there are two basic "Victorian" designs — octagonal and rectangular. The construction is of Western red cedar framing and hardwood sills with a micropore finish.



### Floor outlet

INTEGRATED power and datacom cabling can be accommodated in Van Giel System's new raised floor service outlet box. Available in round and square versions, they combine up to two small power sockets, two telephone sockets and two computer data sockets in a single unit which is suitable for carpeted areas. All raised floor thicknesses from 20mm to 42mm are compatible with the outlet boxes. Integral carpet edging is built into the cover.



### Wardrobe doors

TO complement its range of mirror doors, wardrobe specialist Aemetrick has introduced the Decor Door. Available in 750mm and 900mm widths and 2250mm high, these doors are finished in satin white with two insert panels with a gold relief finish. They are supplied on running gear and are ready to hang, using the tracks provided. To match the Decor Door, Aemetrick has added a white-trimmed mirror door with white tracks and runners to its range.



### Pliable conduit

CONSISTING of a compressed Kraft paper centre core wound with a layer of lead impregnated steel and covered with a smooth PVC sheath, Stayflex pliable conduit from Adaptiflex can be easily bent by hand to follow contours and retain its shape. When used with Adaptiflex nickel plated brass adaptors, Stayflex forms a conduit system which is water resistant to IP67. Initially available in 16, 20, 25 and 32mm diameters, with larger diameters planned, Stayflex conduit can be cut to length using a Stanley knife.



### Documents

SITE notices and site reports can be safely protected from the weather using a Cretan Waterproof document holder, available from Press Promotions and Publicity. Comprising two sheets of 2mm thick clear acrylic plastic, the holder neatly accommodates A4 sheet of paper and is self-sealing with a masking tape. Both sides can be written on and then wiped clean. Other sizes can be supplied on request.



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## Dateline

Items for consideration must be received 10 days prior to publication

Cost: £20 including VAT, students £5.  
Details: Meta van der Steege, RIBA, 01-580 5533 (ext 4420).

Wednesday  
Today  
Preservation for profit, conference organised by the North West Civic Trust and English Heritage. Venue: Wirksworth Town Hall, Wirksworth, Derbyshire. 9.30am-4.30pm. Cost: £25. Details: Pauline Roseoe, North West Civic Trust, 061-794 9314.

Today until Monday  
Houses of Paris — their interiors and gardens, a five-day tour. Cost: £475. Details: Stephanie Laing, the Design Academy, 01-708 1976. 2400.

Thursday  
London seminars for builders: a seminar demonstration of FCG Computer Systems' computer packages for the building industry. Venue: Building Centre, Store Street, London WC1, at 11am, 2pm and 4pm. Details: 01-388 7345.

Tuesday  
Ted Thilling on tennis and textiles, study day organised by the Victoria & Albert Museum.

Venue: Victoria & Albert Museum, London, SW7. 10.30am-5.00pm. Cost: Admission free. Details: Angela Thurgood, Education Department, Victoria & Albert Museum, London SW7 2RL, 01-589 6371.

Wednesday  
Introductory one-day marketing briefings for principals in small and medium architectural practices. Venue: The Victoria Spa Lodge, Bishopstone Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

Cost: £25 including buffet lunch. Details: Liz Burchell (0561) 433654 or George Fardon (0386) 793035.

Wednesday  
Who plans London now? conference. Venue: RIBA, 66 Portland Place, London W1. Details: Wilfried Wang, 01-486 3555.

July 20-22  
The implementation of local plans

Until September 28. Let's face it — fashions in faces 1700-1986, an exhibition covering the story of the face in London over the last 250 years, sponsored by Boots No 7, Venue: The Museum of London, London Wall, EC2. Details: 01-600 3699 ext. 240/280. Details: (021) 4542008.

June 25  
Sorting out the sixties: a one-day course organised by the Midlands Study Centre. Venue: The Midlands Study Centre, 9 Westbourne Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, B15 3TN. Cost: £100 for centre subscribers, £110 for others. Details: (021) 4542008.

June 26  
South London Society of Architects annual general meeting. Venue: Rangers House, Blackheath, 6.15pm. Details: Richard Boaty-Pownall, 106 Lower Richmond Road, Putney, SW15 1LN.

June 27  
Thatching seminar organised by the Thatching Advisory Service. Venue: Thatching Advisory Service, 29 Nine Mile Ride, Finchampstead, Wokingham, Berkshire, RG10 5JN. Cost: £65 plus VAT. Details: Sally Scarlett, TCPA, 01-938 8903.

June 28  
Your marketing initiative now, briefings for principals in medium and small architectural practices. Venue: The Victoria Spa Lodge, Bishopstone Lane, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire.

Cost: £25 including buffet lunch. Details: Liz Burchell (0561) 433654, or George Fardon (0386) 794035.

July 1-2  
Festival of Engraved Glass '86, organised by the Guild of Glass Engravers. Venue: Church of St Lawrence Jewry, London. Details: Publicity Office, 11 Greville Road, West Hampstead, London, NW10, 01-623 4781.

July 12-August 31  
Philip Wilson Steer: paintings and water colours, organised by the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Arts Council. Venue: Cartwright Hall, Bradford. Details: (0274) 493313.

June 25  
New regulations and agreements, symposium organised by the Institute of Hospital Engineering. Venue: The Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Birdcage

Walk, Westminster, London. Cost: Members £48, non-members £53. Details: Institute of Hospital Engineering, (0705) 823186.

Venue: Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne. Cost: Members £48, non-members £53. Details: City Planning Officer, Newcastle City Council, Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8PH. Tel: (0632) 328520 ext 6102.

### People

One Arup & Partners have opened a new, larger office in Cambridge. The associate responsible for this office is Tony Broomhead. For further information contact the office on (0223) 332422.

A B Waters & Partners announce that Roy Lopez has been appointed as an associate of the practice.

John Hall has finally moved from the defunct and demolished School of Architecture Workshop to the School of Chemistry at the University of Bristol, (0225) 303030.

Clive Webb has left Skid Clark Associates, Swindon, and has commenced a new practice, Clive A Webb Architects, 16 Bath Road, Swindon, Wilts SN1 4BA, (0793) 619274.

Jeremy Farmer Design Consultants have changed their name to Farmer Design Group. They are based at 31 Grosvenor Street, London W1. Tel: 01-631 4719.

Clarke Renner Architects have moved to 6 Royalton Studios, 105 Lancaster Road, London W1. Tel: 01-727 3898.

## Subscription details

**Building Design** is published weekly and sent free of charge to registered architects working in the UK and selected members of allied trades. Subscription rates: one year £30, overseas \$80, single copies 60p. Orders to: Subscription Dept, Morgan Grampian (Construction Press) Ltd, Morgan Grampian House, Calderwood St, London SE18 6QH (01-855 7777).

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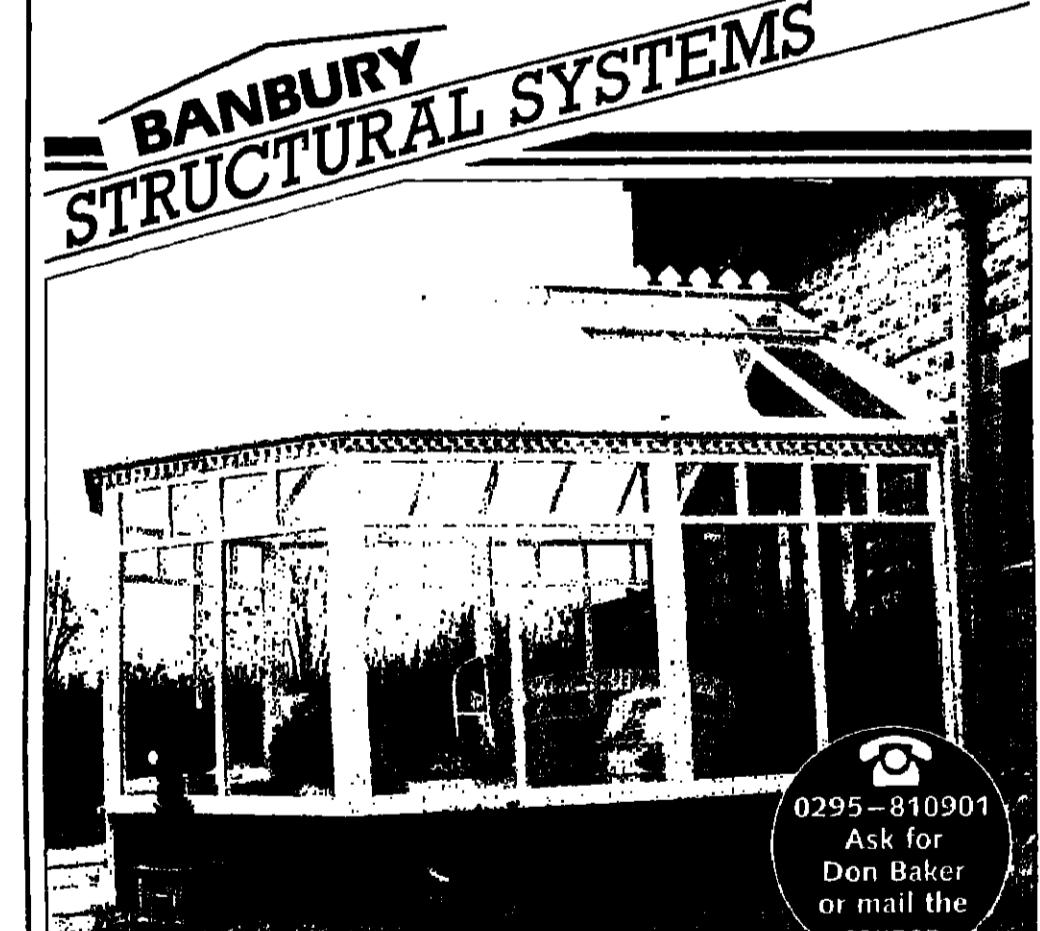
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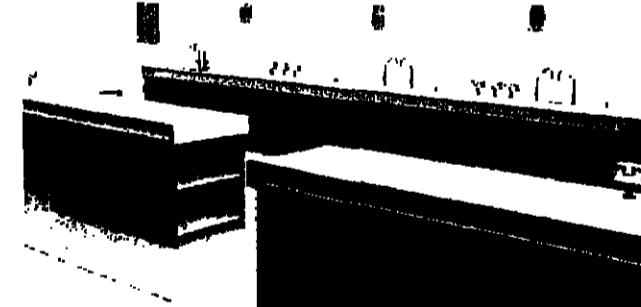
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## BOROUGH OF WATFORD



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Closing date: 27th June 1986.

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Closing date: 27th June 1986.

## SENIOR ASSISTANT ARCHITECT

REF: 51  
GRADE SO2 £11,265-£11,919

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REF: 54  
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Further particulars and an application form (to be returned by 1 July 1986) are available from:

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Closing date for application is 1 July 1986.

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Assistance with housing: removal expenses.

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## BOROUGH OF WATFORD



Bassetlaw District Council  
Development and Leisure  
Division

## ARCHITECTURAL TECHNICIAN

(Post No T130)

£9975 to £10,638 per annum

A Senior Technical Officer is required to devise planned maintenance systems and programmes using computer techniques to analyse collected data. The successful candidate will also assume operational responsibility for implementing planned maintenance and housing repair systems.

Candidates should be in corporate membership of an appropriate professional body and ideally should have had previous experience of the setting up of planned maintenance programmes affecting all types of buildings. Assistance with resettlement expenses in appropriate cases and temporary housing accommodation may be available.

Successful candidates will be expected to make a positive contribution to the work of the team and initiative is encouraged.

The Office is recognised for training purposes and encourages staff in all aspects of professional training including day release.

Qualifications for PTO you need ONC/BTEC/SCOTVEC(NC) or the equivalent or higher in the appropriate subject plus practical experience.

For Technical Grade 1 you need a City & Guilds Advanced Craft qualification and have served a recognised apprenticeship, or passes at GCE 'O' level or CSE (Grade 2) Several years practical experience also are required.

If you want to find out more about these posts ring Chris Brown on 01-834-8622 extn 8950

Application forms and further details are available from the Establishment Officer, Metropolitan Police Office, Room 213 (PSD/AA), 105 Regency Street, London SW1P 4AN or telephone 01-230-3122 (24 hour answering service).

The Metropolitan Police Office is an equal opportunities employer.

Closing date: 27th June 1986.

Further details and an application form please contact the Personnel Officer, Council Offices, Crescent Gardens, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 9SG. Telephone (0423) 68954 ext 993.

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